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THE TIMES 40P

No. 65,655

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

TAKE 200 FRIENDS TO THE CINEMA FREE PAGE 3

TODAY

THE NEW BREED OF ANIMAL LOVER WEEKEND

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Lilley targets the black economy

Fraud hotline plan to trap cheating firms

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

IMPRESSED by the success of its shop-a-cheat service, which attracted 12,500 calls in the first week, the Government is to launch a new hotline for people who want to expose dishonest employers.

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, has ordered his officials to have the service operating by the end of the month. The scheme, which has been under consideration for several months, was given impetus by the success of the benefits hotline.

Hundreds of the calls to the service were from people reporting allegedly dishonest employers. Most of the allegations concerned businessmen paying lower rates to men and women whom they encouraged to continue signing on for the dole.

Many other calls concerned alleged National Insurance fraud, which involves employers deducting contributions from pay packets but keeping the money. Companies that employ illegal immigrants, especially in the inner-cities, will also be exposed by the new service, which is part of the increasing war on fraud that costs the country up to £3 billion a year.

Mr Lilley believes the role of employers in the black economy has not been fully exposed by normal investigation, and pilot schemes have revealed a demand for the service.

Most of the fraud is concentrated in small construction companies, cleaning firms, restaurants, and the rag trade in London's East End. The new scheme will help the Government to deflect criticism from the Labour Party and others who accuse ministers of ignoring fraud perpetrated by businesses.

A Department of Social Security official said: "The benefits hotline is not just about setting neighbour on to neighbour or about catching single mothers who have part-time jobs but claim benefit. It is revealing across-the-board fraud, which we are determined to stamp out."

The official, revealing that many calls last week were about employers who collude with employees, added: "Now there will be a dedicated service that will be handled in strict confidence. It is part of our continuing effort to get fraud out of the system. The benefits which are saved will be used to help genuine claimants.

"Collusive employers who do not pay National Insurance contributions for their employees, or who pay below the market rate salaries because they know the person they are hiring is on benefit, will be targeted."

Calls to the shop-a-cheat service are averaging 2,500 a day. The number is expected to increase sharply when a £500,000 advertising campaign begins. A detailed breakdown of the 12,500 calls is to be prepared next week. Officials are confident of at least a 50 per cent success rate, and arrests are expected to follow within days.

A spokesman for the DSS said: "In the pilot schemes which we ran up and down the country for the benefits cheat hotline there was at least a 50 per cent success rate. We remain confident that we will at least match this figure with the national scheme."

Last year, £1.4 billion of attempted fraud was uncovered by the Benefits Agency. But officials counselled caution about the volume of the calls because they have conceded that many tip-offs were false and inspired by malice. However, dozens of individuals will be signing off the unemployment register within days after approaches from the Benefits Agency.

Labour yesterday outlined plans to tackle fraudsters who are abusing National Insurance numbers to the tune of £170 million a year. Labour announced it would set up a taskforce to track down the millions of National Insurance numbers allegedly still in the system but which belonged to people who have died or gone abroad.

Labour believes most of the numbers are in the hands of fraudsters. The Labour fraud programme, announced by Henry McLeish, the Shadow Social Security Minister, will include spot checks on all inactive NI numbers.

Letters, page 19

SIMON WALKER

Oasis singer Liam Gallagher, left foreground, embraces his brother Noel, watched by Alan White, left, Paul McGuigan and Paul Arthurs

Knebworth braced for Oasis fans' invasion

By Kathryn Knight

A TWO-DAY pop concert billed as Britain's biggest by a single band gets under way today when Oasis play to an expected 250,000 people at Knebworth, Hertfordshire.

Gates to the grounds of the 15th-century stately home open at midday for the 125,000 fans — almost double a Wembley audience — who will descend on the site each day to see their Mancunian idols perform. Hertfordshire police are braced for their biggest traffic jam as the M1 and A1 are clogged by convoys of Britpop and football fans.

Thousands of supporters will also be heading down the A1 to Wembley for the FA Charity Shield match between Newcastle United and Manchester United, which kicks off the football season.

All local police leave has been cancelled for the weekend to handle the traffic. "There are going to be huge queues, there is no way of avoiding it," a spokesman for Hertfordshire police said.

All 250,000 of the £22.50 tickets for Oasis, who will be supported by the Manic Street Preachers and other guest bands, sold out within eight hours of going on sale.

Yesterday, more than 3,000 staff were making final checks on the stadium, which with its huge public address system has taken more than two weeks to construct. The concert will be broadcast live to more than 30 countries.

The weather, however, may be disappointing, with showers forecast throughout the weekend. After the performances, an army of 5,000 workers will help to clear up the debris.

Knebworth, the home of the Lytton family until the early seventies, was opened to outdoor rock events in 1971 by the new owners, David and Chryssie Lytton Cobbold, who needed to raise money to restore the house.

Frank Whittle, father of the jet engine, dies

By Harvey Elliott, air correspondent

SIR FRANK WHITTLE, who invented the jet engine, died yesterday at his home in America aged 89.

In 1929 Sir Frank, a young RAF officer who had been fascinated by flying since the age of four, had a "flash of inspiration" and realised it was possible to swap a piston engine which drove a propeller for a turbine.

His ideas were scoffed at by Air Ministry officials and as a result Germany cashed in and became the first country to fly a military jet aircraft.

Sir Frank, who gave his patent to the country "out of patriotic duty" and then saw it sold to America, for $3 million (£1.9 million), received a one-off payment of £100,000 for his pioneering work. Disgusted, he retired to live in America shortly after the Second World War and was knighted in 1948.

Yesterday Sir Peter Masefield, the former head of British European Airways and a close friend for 50 years, described Sir Frank as a great man who changed the face of aviation.

A spokesman for Rolls-Royce, the engine maker, said he was "one of the great geniuses of our time" who "changed the course of the 20th century as few men have".

Six weeks before he died, Sir Frank bequeathed all his papers to the Churchill Archive Centre at Cambridge University. However at the same time Christie's was planning to auction the original jet engine concept document. When the discrepancy became apparent, the papers did not reach their reserve price and were removed from sale.

Obituary, page 21

Campsite baby alive in dead mother's arms

A BABY was found alive in the arms of its dead mother yesterday at the Virgen de las Nieves campsite in the Spanish Pyrenees.

Five hundred rescuers had worked through the night and the bodies of 63 victims, mostly Spaniards, were recovered. However, Spanish radio said the toll from the mudslide triggered by heavy rains on Wednesday night had reached 76 and there were fears that it could rise to a hundred.

The Dutch Embassy in Madrid confirmed that a Dutch couple and their two children had died.

Survivor's tale, page 3

The Times

Average daily sales of *The Times* achieved a monthly record in July. At 753,784, they were up by 28,945 copies a day on June and by 97,952 (15 per cent) on July 1995, the highest percentage increase of any daily or Sunday newspaper.

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'Kidnapped Britons' report mystifies Johannesburg police

From Inigo Gilmore in Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICAN police were searching Johannesburg last night for three foreign men, believed to be British, who allegedly were abducted by gunmen in their hijacked minibus.

The minibus the three men were travelling in was said to have been hijacked at gunpoint on Friday night during their journey from the airport to a hotel in northern Johannesburg. The police recovered their abandoned chauffeur-driven vehicle in Alexandra township in northern Johannesburg yesterday morning. It had been emptied of its luggage and there was no sign of the men.

Last night the police said they were baffled and they took the driver of the vehicle in for further questioning. Peter Manyekane, 42, the driver of the airport transfer minibus, has told how he was driving the foreigners to an hotel in the northern suburbs of the city when he was accosted at traffic lights and pulled out of the vehicle by five Zulu-speaking men carrying handguns. They then sped off in the minibus with the tourists.

Staring blankly ahead and at times close to tears, Mr Manyekane, said that the hijacking had happened at about 8.45pm at a crossroads near a motorway turn-off.

"One of the passengers was asking me about the crime situation," he said, "and I was telling him how things were improving, when I stopped at the robots (traffic lights). When I tunred my head, there were two men standing there. Then I saw two more on the other side and one in front and they all had guns.

"One of the men tried to open the door, but it was locked. He told me to open the door and to get out. He then pushed me to the ground. I thought they were going to shoot me. They got in the car and drove off."

Mr Manyekane said that the tourists had British accents. Asked how he knew a British accent, he pointed to a British journalist and said: "They sounded like you."

The police say they have little to go on, although Captain Jan Combrinck, a police spokesman, said fingerprints taken from inside the minibus would be sent to Interpol for investigation. No visitors had been reported missing.

Manyekane: the driver

Police prepare stunning end for high speed car chases

By Giles Whittell and Nigel Hawkes

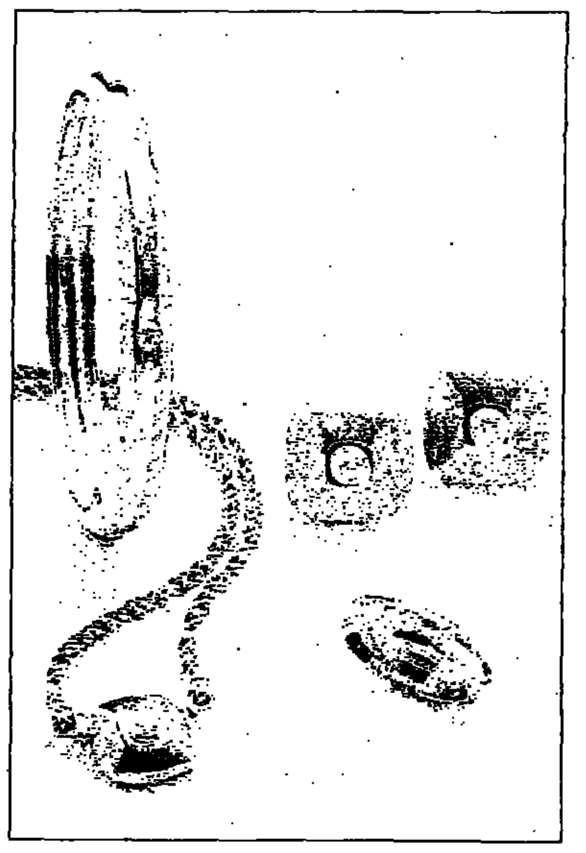
IT COULD be the end of the car chase as we know it. With the automotive equivalent of an stun gun, science fiction is coming to the aid of law enforcement.

A high-powered electrical device under development at the Pentagon's Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, Maryland, is to be tested by police and border patrol agents and could be in use by next year.

The car stopper works by focusing an intense electromagnetic charge on the electronic systems that manage most modern engines, disabling them and paralysing the car. In the jargon of its inventors, the 150 kilovolt charge is a nemp, or non-nuclear electromagnetic pulse. Contractors are bidding to produce a police version.

Very precisely-directed beams are required, but even then there will be problems. A pulse powerful enough to disable an engine at any reasonable range would also be likely to disrupt communications, damage television and radio sets, disable computers and even stop heart pacemakers. There is also the danger of loss of control when car is being driven at high speed.

Counter-measures would include using old-fashioned engines with no electronics, or perhaps surrounding the most delicate components with shielding. The best might be to get hold of one of the stun guns and use it to disable pursuing police vehicles.



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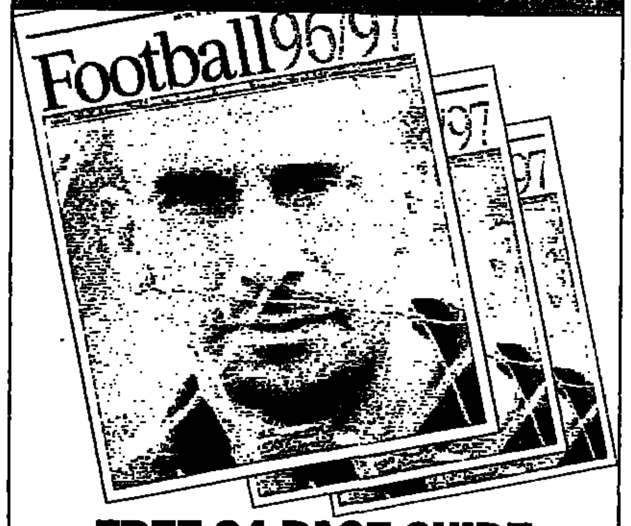

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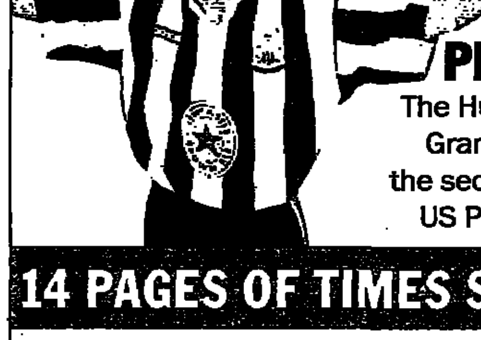

PLUS

The Hungarian Grand Prix, the second Test, US PGA golf

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THE SCIENCE OF ADDICTION

Part one of our series

EVERY MONDAY: MATTHEW PARRIS, COLUMNIST OF THE YEAR

Labour roadshow rocks Cleethorpes

By A Staff Reporter

MARK TURTLE

Armed with a stick of rock. John Prescott carries a less than impressed Hannah Ward along the seafront

ARMED with sticks of rock and whirly hats, John Prescott, the deputy Labour leader, took the fight for votes to the beaches yesterday. The party's £500,000 summer campaign hit the less than sunny sands of Cleethorpes with masses of stickers and leaflets and red and yellow balloons.

Mr Prescott strolled the sea front chatting to bemused holidaymakers and handing out sticks of rock stamped with "Tory lies". Stopping to kiss a baby, a less than impressed Hannah Ward, 11 months, from Barnsley, Mr Prescott led his entourage on to the nearly deserted beach for a photo call and a spot of sandcastle building.

Helping him to create a little empire on the beach was Emma Durrant, three, from Immingham, who was more interested in her stick of rock than kissing the jovial politician. When asked who Mr Prescott was, she said: "I don't remember but he gave me this rock."

The visit ended with a game of beach cricket, but Mr Prescott insisted there was a serious message behind his visit. He said: "Cleethorpes is a key seat and we've got to make sure we win it. That's why I'm here. We want to have a bit of politics and a bit of fun and get our message across about Tory lies."

The constituency of Brigg & Cleethorpes is held for the Tories by Michael Brown with a majority of 9,269. Stopping to move out of the way for the Tonka Train Seaside Special, Mr Prescott, who refused to be drawn into the Clare Short row, added: "It's summer — let's enjoy ourselves. Why go to Benidorm when you can go to Cleethorpes?"

However, tourists in Benidorm will also be getting some of the Labour summer treatment. The party plans to distribute its balloons, rock and whirly hats along the Spanish Costas. But yesterday it was cloudy Cleethorpes, where some tourists seemed *impressed with the campaign.*

"It's a great idea," said Sheila Rabett, from Chesterfield, who was visiting the resort with her mother Marion Booker. "But we were a bit shocked when they approached us with all those balloons and hats. We thought it was a children's party."

Charles Hendry, Conservative Party vice-chairman, said: "In a desperate attempt to keep him out of trouble, New Labour strategists have sent him to North East Lincolnshire, a far cry from Tuscany, the holiday resort of leader Tony Blair. While the Labour leader sips chianti in Italy, the *deputy is left licking his* wounds after a week of political battering."

Prison union is accused of holding rigged ballot

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

Boddington: won the election by 78 votes

THE Prison Officers' Association was caught in a vote-rigging scandal yesterday when a union watchdog ruled that the ballot for its chairmanship had been fixed.

Other defects were found in the hard-fought election for the post, which John Boddington won by only 78 votes. A ballot establishing a political fund was also found to have breached rules.

The ruling executive of the *union, which has 29,000 members*, is to re-run the ballot for the top post and the political fund, and ballots for the vice-chairmen and finance officer.

The vote-rigging took place at two jails in Northern Ireland and was designed to help Mr Boddington to victory over his rival, Terry McLaren. Neither of the candidates was aware of the rigging.

A number of ballot papers were not delivered to prison officers at the Maze and Belfast jails, and were filled in by a small number of other people, according to the 40-page report into the irregularities.

More than 150 "dubious" ballot papers in favour of Mr Boddington were found among returns from the Maze and Belfast jails after the contest last summer. Independent scrutineers found similarities in the ink used and in the style of the "X" against Mr Boddington's name. They also found a big increase in the turnout at the two jails *compared with previous ballots.*

Ted Whybrew, certification officer for trade unions and employers' associations, said: "There was ample scope for a small number of people to fill in and return a number of ballot papers which did not reach the hands of those to whom they were addressed and I conclude that, on the overwhelming balance of probabilities, that is what happened and on a scale to influence the outcome of the election . . . a significant number of voting papers dispatched to the Maze and Belfast had been filled in by a small number of people."

The report also ruled that the Prison Officers' Association had not allowed its members at the Maze and Belfast jails to vote without interference or constraint and had not allowed them a convenient opportunity to vote by post. It said that ballot papers addressed to members at those prisons were issued and collected by union officials.

Mr Boddington said that one of the difficulties faced by the union was the tradition, for security reasons, of ballot papers being sent to members' workplaces rather than their homes.

He said the union disagreed with the finding that some people had cast several votes. "We have seen no evidence to comprehend why Mr Whybrew came to that conclusion."

Mr Boddington said that the union had decided to rerun the ballots to stop further challenges to their validity. The cost is put at £100,000.

Sinn Fein takes control of Derry parades protest

By Nicholas Watt, Chief Ireland Correspondent

SINN FEIN has taken control of republican opposition to today's loyalist parade through Londonderry after nationalists reversed plans to march past a Protestant area of the city last night.

The Bogside Residents' Group, which has close links with Sinn Fein, agreed to avoid the Protestant Fountain area of the city after an appeal from the party not to antagonise Unionists. The nationalists, who were protesting against today's parade through Londonderry by the loyalist Apprentice Boys, marched instead through neutral areas of the city centre to a gathering outside Guildhall Square.

The change of plan was *announced after a meeting* with Martin McGuinness, the Sinn Fein leader in Londonderry. Unionists said it was a cynical ploy by republicans to portray nationalists as magnanimous and loyalists as intransigent.

Sammy Wilson, a Democratic Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Forum, said: "Having delved into the cesspit of sectarian bigotry they are now going to try and come up smelling of roses. This comes after a week of provocative statements."

Unionists also reacted angrily when the Bogside residents offered to cancel a second march in Londonderry this afternoon if the Apprentice Boys agreed to reroute a series of small parades throughout Northern Ireland today. The loyalists dismissed the request and vowed to press ahead with the parades which act as "feeders" to the main Apprentice Boys' march in Londonderry which will be attended by more than 15,000 loyalists this afternoon.

Armed police and soldiers will mount a big security operation in the city today. Leaders of the Apprentice Boys have promised to hold peaceful protests. However, security sources have voiced fears that hardline loyalists, *referred to as the "tatoo element"*, may converge on Londonderry looking for trouble.

There is widespread dismay among both communities that Londonderry, which has been a model for the regeneration of other towns in Northern Ireland, is now the focal point for sectarianism. The Right Rev James Mehaffey, the Church of Ireland Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, appealed for peaceful marches today. "We don't want our city, which we have worked so hard and so long to improve, to be destroyed almost a stroke."

NEWS IN BRIEF

City that overspent £5m must stop work

Liverpool city council was ordered by the Government to shut down part of its in-house contract workforce yesterday after overspending by nearly £5 million. The decision affects highways, sewers, cleaning, catering, and grounds and vehicle maintenance. Sir Paul Beresford, the Environment Minister, said 60 per cent of the council's ground maintenance work must cease. The Labour council, which has Britain's highest council tax, said it was considering a legal challenge, and that it had already taken action to improve its budget.

Rage driver jailed

James Hopkinson, 69, a former handyman, was jailed for 18 months by Leeds Crown Court for stabbing another motorist in a road-rage attack. Julian Gott, 45, a surveyor, had been angry after Hopkinson, of Pudsey, West Yorkshire, cut in front of him and had followed him to a car park. Hopkinson stabbed him seven times with a penknife.

Post strike offer

The 140,000 postal workers involved in the seven-week dispute with Royal Mail will today receive details of a peace package negotiated at Acas, which was agreed by union negotiators but rejected by its leaders. A spokesman for the Post Office said: "It comes down to trust and whether the union is prepared to let its members decide the issue."

WPC commended

Vanessa Winstanley, 28, the probationary police constable who rescued a blood-soaked pensioner after the IRA Manchester bomb explosion, was commended for her "bravery and professionalism". She was one of more than 50 police and civilian staff presented with special commendations for their role in responding to the blast.

Gun message

The face of Emma Crozier, five, a victim in the Dunblane massacre, launched a campaign aimed at banning the private ownership of guns. Advertisements by the Society Against Guns in Europe carried her photograph with the words of her father, John: "Your child's right to life is greater than anybody's right to own a gun."

No charges

Police will not face criminal charges over the death of Shiji Lapite, 34, a Nigerian asylum seeker who died in custody after being arrested in north London on suspicion of possessing drugs in 1994, the Crown Prosecution Service said in a statement yesterday. An inquest jury in January returned a verdict of unlawful killing.

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'We were lifted off our feet by a huge surge of water, tent and all, and slammed against our car'

Couple battled to hold children above raging flood

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN
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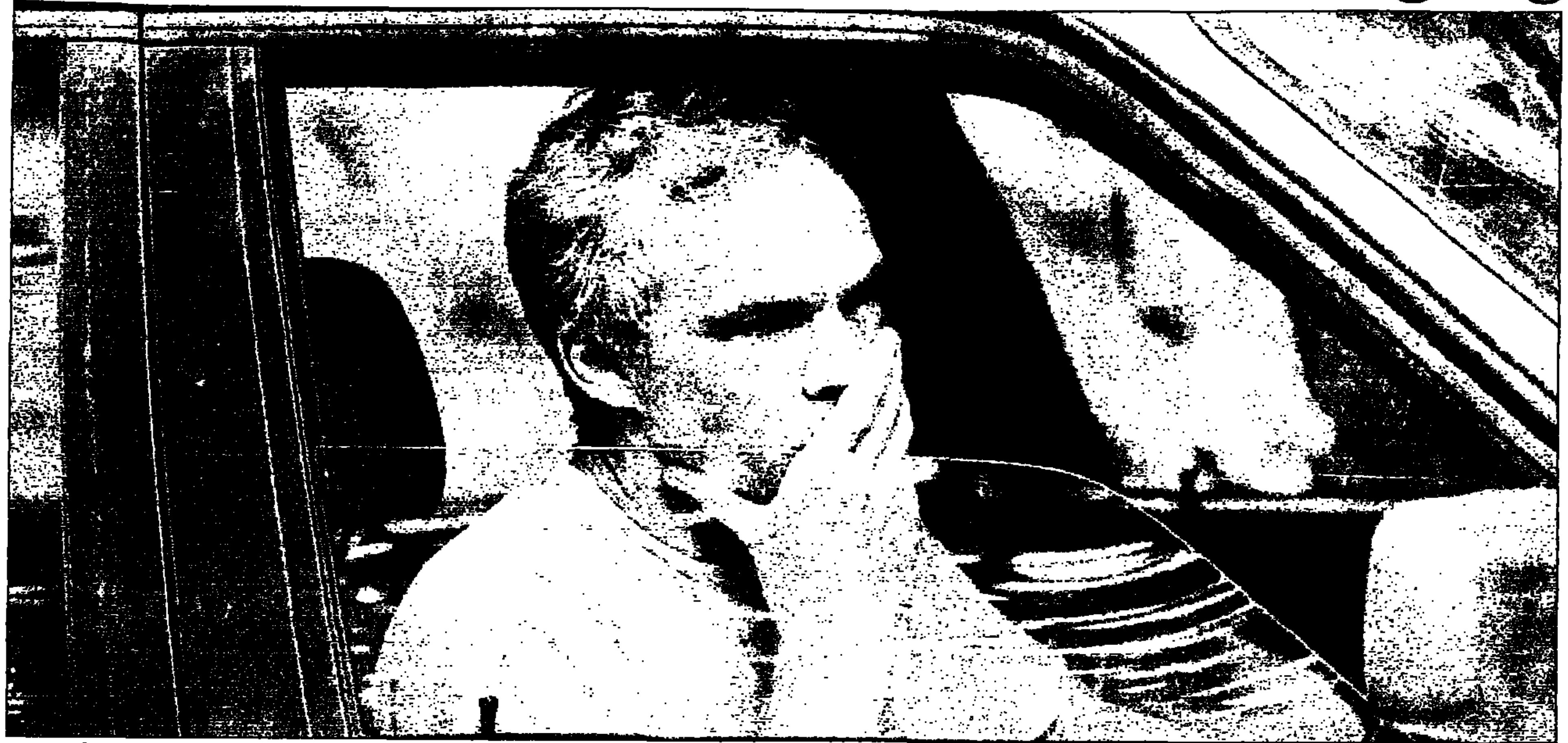


Andrew Hamill holding back tears yesterday when he recalled how he, his wife, and two daughters nearly died in the flash flood that killed 76 people

A FAMILY from Chester described yesterday their astonishing escape from death at the campsite in Virgen de las Nieves in the Spanish Pyrenees, where at least 76 people died in a flash flood on Wednesday.

As the search for bodies continued over 20 square miles, Pamela Hamill, 42, the head of the sixth form at a comprehensive school, told how she and her husband had held their two young daughters above their shoulders for "what seemed like hours" to save them from drowning in water that raged around them.

Mrs Hamill said that she and her husband Andrew, 42, a university lecturer, were in their tent at the edge of the Camping Las Nieves site sheltering from the torrential rain. The children, Louise, nine, and Alison, six, were tucked into their sleeping bags as she read *Budgie the Little Helicopter* to them.

Mrs Hamill said: "We kept hearing this rumbling noise, like a distant roar that got louder and louder, and wondered what it was. We thought there was going to be a major thunderstorm, and the children were excited because they had never seen one before."

Suddenly, at about 7pm, water started to seep under the tarpaulin and into the tent. "We jumped up to gather together our things and stop them getting wet when, without warning, we were simply lifted off our feet by a huge surge of water, tent and all, and slammed hard against our car, which was parked behind us. That car saved our lives. If it hadn't been there to catch us all, we'd have been swept away like so many of the others," she said.

The Hamills fought their way out of the tent only to be pinned back once more against their car by the remorseless waters, which had now risen to the level of an adult's chin.

Mrs Hamill, still shaken by the memory, said: "My husband and I held Louise and Alison desperately over our shoulders, keeping them above water, hoping that it would not rise further. The girls held us tight, keeping their grip firm. They were very brave and strong."

But the worst was yet to come. Minutes later they looked up to see a torrent of water propelling "something like four or five caravans and cars" towards them at high speed, certain to crush them against their car. They were saved from being killed when the first caravan slammed into a poplar only feet away. It held fast and the other vehicles crashed into it, creating a dam which reduced the intensity of the water pounding the family.

The Hamills inched their way through the rapid water, now waist deep, until they reached higher ground. An hour later they were discovered by rescuers. Their BMW car was found to be undamaged, save for a thick coat of mud. It was the only car on the site not to have been wrecked by the flood.

The Hamills, like many other survivors, have been given refuge by a family at Biescas, a village near by. Angel Prieto and his wife Maria-Antonia, an elderly retired couple, from Zaragoza, have housed, fed and clothed them without a thought of the cost or inconvenience.

Señora Prieto, who has taken the Hamills' daughters under her wing, plying them constantly with crisps, chocolates and affection, speaks virtually no English. The Hamills speak no Spanish, either, yet an eager friendship — born of gratitude on the one hand and sympathy on the other — has developed between the Spanish family and their British "refugees".

A vigorous sign language, combined with a spontaneous brand of "Spanglish", have ensured that communication is never impossible. "We will never, never forget their kindness, nor tolerate anyone who speaks ill of the Spanish," Mrs Hamill said.

Señora Prieto, meanwhile, complains that "her English family" do not eat as much as she would like them to. She said: "Maybe they don't like what I cook for them. Or maybe they're just not in the mood for food.

"But they've only lost their appetites. They are very lucky. Others have lost their lives."

Another British survivor told yesterday how his son had shouted out "we're going to die" as the flood struck. Roy Ward, a lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University, his wife Ann, and their children Oliver, nine, and Rhea, six, were in their caravan which was swept away and only halted when it hit a tree.

Maxwell daughter made tea for arresting officers

BY LIN JENKINS

THE daughter of the late Robert Maxwell made tea for the policemen who stopped her for drink-driving and showed them photographs of her family, a court was told yesterday. Ghislaine Maxwell, 34, also promised to write a letter to their senior officer praising them for the way they had conducted themselves.

The officers found her "one of the most co-operative customers Chelsea police station have ever had", Nazir Afzal, for the prosecution, told Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, London.

Mr Afzal said that Maxwell took them to her brother's home from the police station to prove that, while she did not have an address of her own in London, there was one that was suitable to meet the requirements of bail.

Maxwell, a business consultant who lives in New York, was stopped at 4.30am on July 5 while driving from a dinner party in Fulham, west London. Police followed her after they noticing that her Volkswagen Golf GTi did not have lights on and stopped her in Harrington Road, South Kensington.

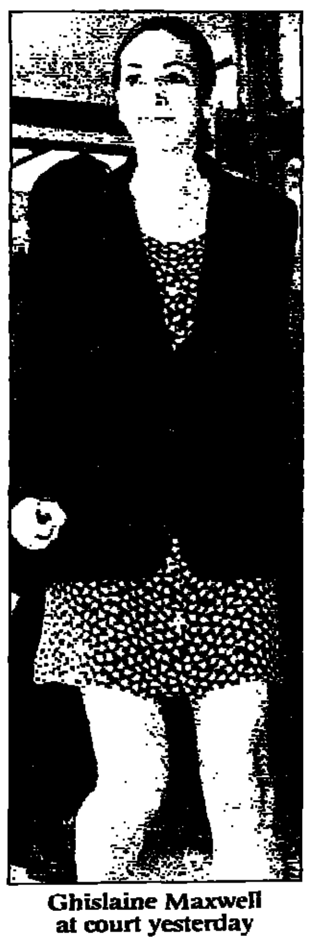
"She said she was sorry and police officers noticed her breath smelled of intoxicating liquor. She was asked when she last had a drink and said, 'About two minutes ago.' " Mr Afzal said.

After the required delay she was breath-tested at the roadside, found to be positive and taken to Chelsea police station where she was again tested. The lowest reading was 55 micrograms per 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit for driving is 35.

"She subsequently said that she was allergic to alcohol and had not had a drink for 4½ years. They did not put much credence to this and she later apologised," Mr Afzal told the court.

"She said she had no fixed abode in the United Kingdom so she invited the officers back to her brother's address and made them cups of tea and showed them photographs of the family. She also said she would write to their senior officer to commend their hospitality."

Maxwell was freed on police bail after the officers had visited her brother Ian's home in South Kensington and decided that it was a suitable address.



Ghislaine Maxwell
at court yesterday

Maxwell pleaded guilty to driving with excess alcohol and was fined £1,000, banned for a year and ordered to pay £75 costs.

She thanked Anthony Eadie, the stipendiary magistrate, after he passed sentence saying that he would impose only the minimum driving ban because, although she was about 1½ times over the limit, it was not as high as some offenders. "Although the reading of breath was not as high as some, it was substantially over the limit. I must tell you that you must not drive from this moment forward for a period of 12 months. That is any motor vehicle," Mr Eadie said.

Keith Oliver, for Maxwell, said that she had lived in New York for five years and was of "moderate means".

On the day of her arrest she had been to a dinner party, had little to eat, and had drunk two or three glasses of wine on an empty stomach. He said she had gone back to the United States after being bailed by police and had returned especially for the hearing.

The youngest of Maxwell's seven children, Ghislaine was considered her father's favourite daughter. The boat from which he fell to his death off the Canary Islands in 1991 was named *Lady Ghislaine*.

Maxwell, whose occupation was listed on the court's charge sheet as Internet operator, had a reputation as a socialite before leaving London to settle in the United States.

She declined to comment after the case yesterday and left in a black cab.

Driver who killed three is jailed for three months

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A SPEEDING driver who killed three people in a crash was jailed for three months yesterday. MPs and motoring organisations condemned the punishment as too light.

At Perth Sheriff Court, Sheriff John Wheatley said the offence had not been committed deliberately or recklessly, and the circumstances therefore permitted a shorter sentence.

It took the jury just 40 minutes to find Stuart Dow, 23, guilty of dangerous driving at excessive speeds and causing the deaths of Samuel McCulloch, a 62-year-old Glasgow architect, his wife Jessie, 61, and her aunt Dorothea Miller, 76, from Perthshire. He was also given a four-year driving ban. The accident happened on the main A93 Perth to Braemar road on July 29 last year. Dow smashed into Mr McCulloch's car after failing to stop at a crossroads.

He was knocked out by the impact and the court heard he had no memory of the crash. All three of the occupants in Mr McCulloch's car were fatally injured.

Mrs McCulloch's two sisters and brother-in-law, who were travelling separately, saw the tragedy. Outside court the McCullochs' three daughters criticised the sentence as "minimal" but expressed sympathy for Dow's family.

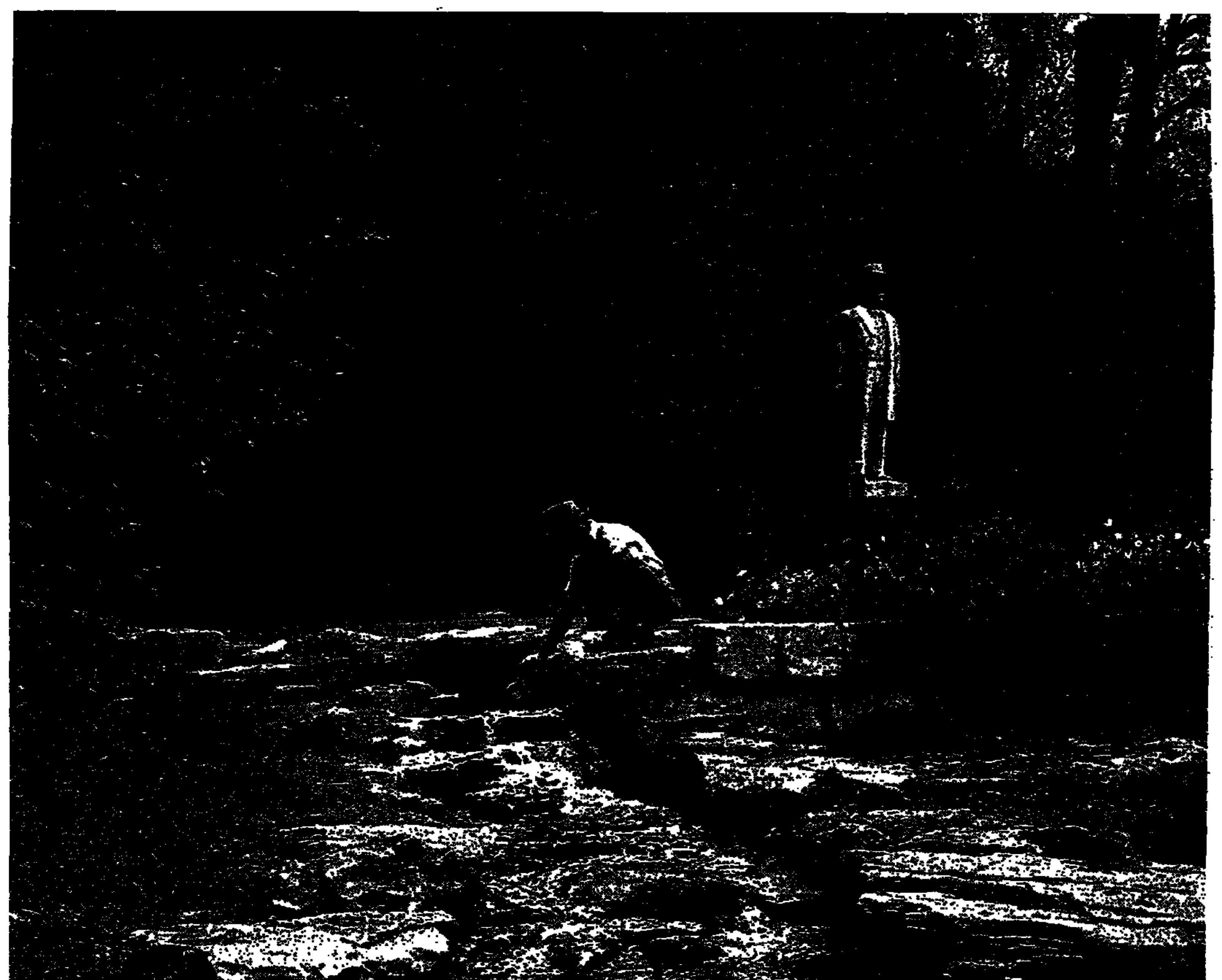
Audrey McCulloch said: "We don't want revenge. But it is important that dangerous drivers get custodial sentences because of the message it sends. Emotionally we feel he *should* have got more, but that is a matter for the judge. Even if he was given a 10 year sentence, our lives would still be shattered."

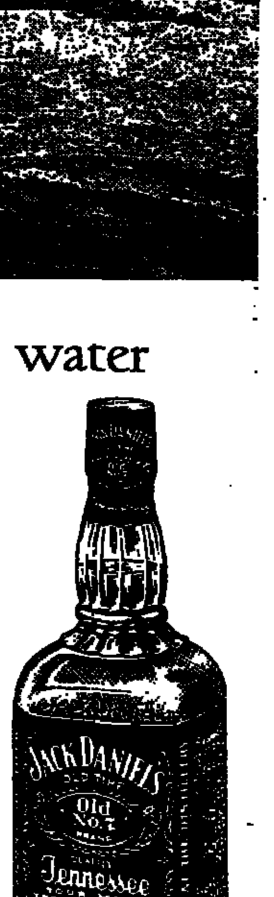
Dow's advocate Sam Cathcart told the Sheriff that his client was a first offender who was unlikely to reoffend. The past year had been "a nightmare" for him.

Bill Walker, MP for Tayside North, criticised the outcome as "lenient" and claimed it did not fit the gravity of the accident.

Sue Nicholson, spokeswoman for the RAC in Scotland, said: "Speeding is one of the major causes of road deaths in Scotland. Road fatalities are increasing, and we would like to see the judiciary make full use of the powers available."

Causing death by dangerous driving carries a maximum tariff of three years in a Sheriff's Court, or five on referral to the High Court.





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Scottish cities may team up in chase for Olympic prize

By Shirley English

GLASGOW and Edinburgh, which have rarely seen eye to eye, are preparing to put their differences aside and make a joint bid to bring the Olympic Games to Scotland.

The plan was announced unilaterally by Pat Lally, the self-styled Lord Provost of Glasgow, at the World Rowing Championships in Strathclyde yesterday. Eric Milligan, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, hurriedly confirmed his backing for the scheme provided that it could be achieved at a reasonable cost. "We hope to be able to consign to the dustbin the age old rivalry between the two cities," he said.

Mr Lally said that in recent years Glasgow had hosted the finest sporting events. "Scotland is the ideal location for an international gathering such as the Olympics," he said. "I fully believe that it is possible for Glasgow and Edinburgh to join forces to make a successful bid to host the games in the early part of the 21st century."

Lally: believes Scotland is the ideal location

Mr Lally and Mr Milligan will meet next week to discuss the idea and inter-city co-operation. However, he will first have to convince his council colleagues. Bob Gould, leader of Glasgow City Council, said he knew nothing about the bid, adding that the city had more pressing needs, having just made spending cuts of £67 million. Bidding for the Olympics is believed to have cost Manchester £7 million.

The two cities will have to carry out a feasibility study paid for by the respective councils. A study carried out during the 1960s and 1970s concluded that it would be too costly.

Times have changed, however. Private sponsorship and Lottery money mean cities do not have to foot the whole bill. According to Mr Lally, Glasgow and Edinburgh already have world-class sporting facilities, Edinburgh having hosted the Commonwealth Games a decade ago. They also have the basic infrastructure to deal with large numbers of visitors.

As well as football stadiums, Glasgow has Ingliston showground for show jumping. The East End leisure centre, which will have Olympic swimming and diving facilities, will be completed at the end of the year and there is a Millennium Fund application for an international indoor sports-arena at Glasgow Green.

Glasgow and Edinburgh hope to bring the Olympic flame to Scotland

Mr Lally said that very few would-be hosts have everything in place when they first apply to the Internationl Olympics Committee. "If we go forward with total commitment and dedication, we could bring the games to Glasgow and Edinburgh. With the advent of Lottery funding, central government finance may not be as critical to a bid as it has been.

"Nevertheless, the backing of central government, together with the support of the Scottish parliament, will be important to achieving our objective."

The Scottish Sports Council, which will be responsible for distributing lottery money, was enthusiastic about the idea. Yesterday a spokesman said: "It is certainly an interesting and adventurous proposal. Anything is possible. Although led by Glasgow and Edinburgh, it would really be a national project. As far as working together goes, sport can be a unifying factor."

Magnus Linklater, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Rowing report, page 42

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police pay £17,000 to protesters

Two women wrongfully arrested during a protest against the M3 at Twyford Down won damages yesterday. Hampshire police agreed to pay £9,000 to Brenda Puech and £8,000 to Kathryn Tulip. The women, from London, were arrested in 1993 for obstructing a police officer. Winchester Crown Court was told that the arrests were unlawful because a warrant was required.

Barclays on hold

The Barclay brothers will have to wait to see if they are to do legal battle with the Queen. An application by the Crown to become the second defendant in their action to remove Brecqhou, their tiny Channel Island, from the feudal control of Sark, was adjourned until Monday.

Clark charge

Diego Cogolato, 28, was remanded in custody yesterday by Marylebone magistrates, charged with the murder of Raymond "Ossie" Clark, 54. The fashion designer was found dead at his flat in Notting Hill, west London, with stab wounds to the upper body and head.

Jail woman hurt

A woman was stabbed by a prisoner with a screwdriver that he was using during an educational class at Littlehey prison, Cambridgeshire. The victim, a civilian employee, was treated in hospital for minor wounds. The male prisoner was segregated while inquiries continued.

Eubank for trial

The boxer Chris Eubank was sent for trial charged with injuring two women during a seafront fireworks party. Mr Eubank, 30, of Hove, East Sussex, who has just announced his comeback to the ring, has said he will compensate both women for the injuries they received.

Priest attacked

Pastor James Ozigi, of the Churches Commission for Racial Justice, was attacked outside his home in Southwark, south London, by three white youths who left him with serious eye and ear injuries. A neighbour who came his aid was stabbed. Two men were arresed.

Sacred lobsters

A party of Buddhist monks bought 160kg of live lobsters at Bembridge, Isle of Wight, embarked on a boat, and returned them to the sea. A spokesman for the monks said: "Buddhists believe all life is sacred and are vegetarian. They were simply trying to protect life."

Elegant: the avocet

Reservoir beats bird reserve

AVOCETS, the elegant waders that are the symbol of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, have raised a chick at a disused reservoir in southwest London in a year when not a single fledgeling survived at the RSPB's principal bird reserve, Minsmere in Suffolk (Robin Young writes).

One of Britain's rarest breeding birds, the avocet first returned to breed in England at Minsmere in 1947 and the native population, still only about 500 pairs, has until now remained concentrated on the East Anglian coast.

The chick hatched on June 30 in Kempton Park, Hounslow, is the first the internationally protected species has succeeded in producing in inland Britain.

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Len Shackleton's confession

1940s soccer hero tells of blackmail and transfer bung

By Robin Young

THE clean image of football's good old days was kicked in the shinpads yesterday with a confession by Len Shackleton that he took what would nowadays be called a "bung" during his record transfer from Newcastle United to Sunderland in 1948.

Even worse, the man who was the Paul Gascoigne and Alan Shearer of his day admitted he used the secret to blackmail the Sunderland chairman — who became chairman of the England selectors — into granting him a benefit match at the end of his career.

The sums involved were not up to today's standards. Shackleton refused to reveal the size of his unofficial inducement, but the entire transfer fee was just £20,050 — then a record. He says that he was blacklisted from the England team after being refused first-class rail expenses, despite being among the goalscorers who defeated Germany's 1954 World Cup winners.

Now 74, and living in retirement in Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, the former inside forward known as the "Clown Prince of Soccer" made his admission in an interview with *The Northern Echo*. The Sunderland chairman, Syd Collings, now dead, was chairman of the selectors when England won the World Cup in 1966, and stood next to the Queen as she presented the trophy to Bobby Moore.

In action: Shackleton's transfer was a record

Shackleton said: "I blackmailed him. I made it clear that I was ready to make public the fact that he had been involved in my transfer from Newcastle to Sunderland when I was given an under-the-counter payment. He quickly got the board to grant me the match. I had to wait two years after my career was ended for the testimonial."

A crowd of 26,000 paid at the gate for the benefit match, which earned Shackleton £3,000, out of which he had to pay expenses for policing and paying the guest players.

As a player he specialised in tricks such as bouncing the ball round defenders off the corner flag, or placing his foot on the ball and pausing before impudently back-heeling it into goal. His career was cut short by an ankle injury, and he said he is still pursuing Sunderland for a £750 bonus he feels he should have received when he completed ten years with the club.

He said: "Given the crowds of 50 to 60,000 that watched us, I certainly expected to receive the payment after a specialist ruled my ankle was too damaged to continue."

Shackleton, who earned £17 a week at the peak of his career, was turned down by the Department of Social Security when he claimed the damaged ankle injury was an industrial injury.

In his 11 years with Sunderland, he scored 97 goals in 320 league matches. He was capped five times for England, but never recalled after scoring in the 3-1 win over Germany. He says he was blacklisted after his first-class expenses claim was turned down and it was rightly suspected he might refuse to play for his country again.

In 1957, several Sunderland directors were fined and suspended after a joint inquiry by the FA and the Football League into illegal payments, including one to Billy Bingham, later manager of Northern Ireland, who was found to have received £75 in excess signing-on fees and bonuses. The High Court later ruled that the punishment of directors was *ultra vires* and the penalties were set aside. The club was fined £5,000. Collings did not feature in the scandal. The club was relegated in 1958.

Yesterday another football legend, Tom Finney, who played for Preston North End until 1960, said: "Players were not paid more than a pittance in those days. I finished on £20 a week and I never transferred so I know nothing about under-the-counter payments. It was gossip among the players, though, that Sunderland were a club who would pay a little bit extra. They were known as the Bank of England.

"There were all sorts rumours about them. With some other clubs, players knew they would get nothing above their £10 signing-on fee. Len Shackleton was a quite remarkable player."

In retirement: "I made it clear that I was ready to make the facts public"

Chaplain arrested after wife suffers fractured skull

By Joanna Bale

A HOSPITAL chaplain was being questioned by detectives last night after his wife suffered a fractured skull. The Rev Michael Golightly was arrested after his wife Enid, 53, was found lying on the floor of their home in Durham with a compound fracture of the left temple.

Mr Golightly, also 53, rang the emergency services on Thursday to say his wife had fallen down the stairs. He was arrested by police at the scene. He is the Church of England *chaplain for Community* Health Care in the North Durham NHS Trust and is based at Maiden Law Hospital in Lanchester, Co Durham.

Mrs Golightly was initially taken to Dryburn Hospital in Durham before being transferred to the specialist head injuries unit at Newcastle General Hospital. Her condition was described last night as ill but stable.

A spokesman for Durham Constabulary said: "CID has been granted a 12-hour extension to question him beyond the initial 24 hours allowed."

The Golightlys, who have lived in the Nevilles Cross area of Durham since September, have four grown-up children who are believed to live away from home. The couple are regular attenders at St John's Church, in Nevilles Cross. Yesterday neighbours were uncertain as to what had happened.

Betty Cooper, a pensioner, said: "I spoke to the pastor of St John's who told me he thought Mrs Golightly had fallen and I hope that's all it was."

The Archdeacon of Durham, Derek Hodgson, said: "I have no idea whether charges will be preferred on Mr Golightly, it is a matter for the police to handle.

"I hope to see Mr Golightly later today as his Archdeacon but more than that I cannot say."

Mr Golightly was previously chaplain of Winterton Hospital in Sedgefield, Cleveland. A spokesman for the health trust declined to comment, saying that the incident was a private matter.

Career pressure 'driving young women to suicide'

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

YOUNG women are turning to suicide in rising numbers as their career aspirations are dashed. They are beginning to follow the pattern of young men, whose suicide rate has soared in the past 20 years.

The problem is worst in the West Midlands, where there was a 93 per cent rise in suicides among women aged 15 to 24 between 1974 and 1992. There was a rise of 36 per cent in Northern England and 14 per cent in the South West.

The figures are all the more striking because women's suicide rates have been falling in the past two decades. Young women's suicides began increasing in Britain only in the past four years and there has been a similar trend throughout the Western world.

Colin Pritchard of the University of Southampton's social work department, said that the phenomenon affected the English-speaking countries in particular. "That is because our English-speaking younger women are probably more equal opportunities-aware than Latin countries. As young women begin to live more like men they will begin to die like them."

Professor Pritchard, 60, found his findings alarming. Women have traditionally been more prone to failed suicide attempts than men because they used techniques such as overdosing that tended to result in sickness rather than death. But young women are now turning to the surer methods favoured by men.

There are 4,500 suicides in Britain each year; five men to each woman. Men's suicide rates have increased by 14 per cent in the past two decades, but for 15 to 24-year-olds the rate has soared by 80 per cent and for 25 to 34-year-olds by 50 per cent. It has doubled in Scotland and trebled in Northern Ireland. Unemployment has been blamed.

Women's suicides have fallen by 47 per cent at the same time. This is attributed to the disappearance of coal gas-fired ovens, more caution in the prescribing of medicines, and better psychology and social services.

Professor Pritchard views the rise in suicide by young women as one of the repercussions of female emancipation. "There has been a profound change in young women's attitude to work. Young women feel about work now as young men have always felt. They feel they need to be in employment and successful. Women used to find their social identity in their families and homes but work is now giving them their social identity as it does young men," he said.

"They are becoming more *macho* as they strive to be more independent. Young women want to be good at their jobs and still take on the pressures of running the family.

"Young middle-class mums are employing childminders so they can hold down their jobs. Then they grieve and feel guilt. Their bodies are telling them to be mums and their minds are telling them to go out and be breadwinners.

"The accumulation of all these stresses and pressures is leading them more to suicide. I don't want to go back to the time when the woman was tied to the kitchen sink.

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Investigators believe human error was cause of Watford train collision that killed one woman

Driver may have gone through red light

By Jonathan Prynn and Adam Fresco

THE Watford train collision, which left one woman dead and 68 other passengers injured, was probably caused by a driver passing through a red light, investigators believe.

As three inquiries were launched, the dead woman was named as Ruth Holland, 54, the books editor for the *British Medical Journal*, who lived in Hemel Hempstead.

Initial reports from the chaotic crash scene half a mile south of Watford Junction Station pointed to human error as the most likely cause of the accident. More than 400 passengers were packed onto the 5.04pm London Euston to Milton Keynes service when it ploughed into a southbound empty stock train. As heavy cranes removed mangled carriages from the crash site, investigators studied data from the black boxes recovered from the train and the nearby signal box.

Railtrack said it had appointed David Maidment, 58, a former British Rail and Railtrack safety manager, as the independent chairman of its internal inquiry into the accident. The company said that it would issue a statement on the likely cause of the crash early next week.

Ruth Holland: died as she returned home

David Eves, the deputy director-general of the Health and Safety Executive, said the effects of privatisation would form part of its independent investigation of the crash. "Clearly we have a number of operators now on the railway system. We have a different kind of railway in terms of the system than we used to have," he told Radio 4. "That happens to be as a result of privatisation, but we will want to see that the people involved in running the system are satisfying the requirements that they have offered up in their own safety cases."

Labour and the rail unions said the collision cast fresh doubt on the safety of the railways under privatisation after the Government's decision not to instal Automatic Train Protection on the railways. The safety system, which was recommended by the Clapham disaster inquiry, would probably would have prevented the accident but has been judged too expensive.

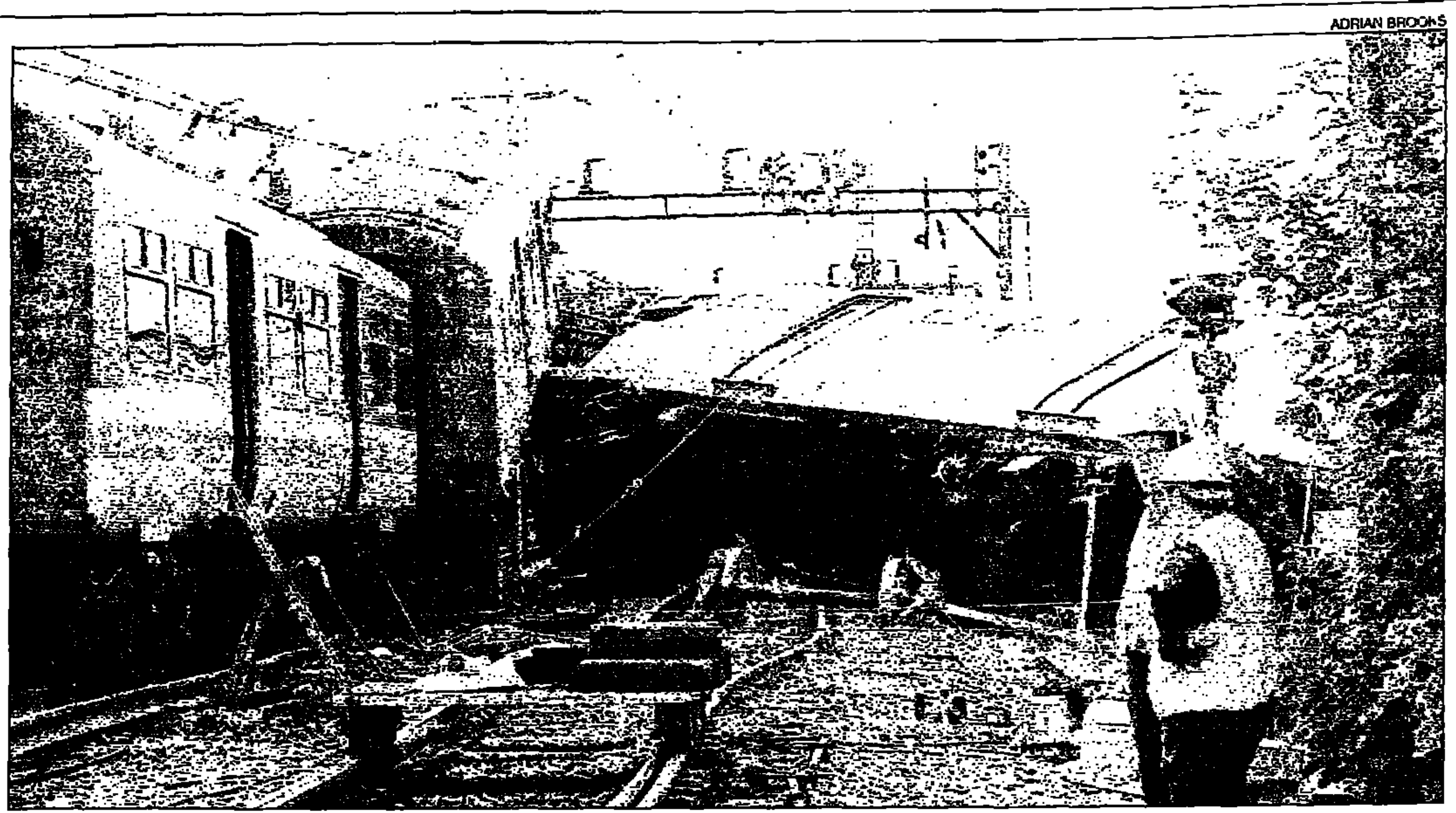
Eleven people remained in Watford General Hospital last night, including both train drivers, who have been kept in separate wards and have been tested for alcohol and drugs.

Experts believe that the passenger train, which was running six minutes late, was hit as the other train crossed from a local to a high-speed track on the West Coast main line. Signal failure is not ruled out but is thought unlikely as the signalling on the track was only six years old and believed to be in good repair.

Mrs Holland, whose married name was Ruth Snook, had worked for the British Medical Association for 20 years. She leaves a husband, Derek, and a son, Harry.

Leading article, page 19

ADRIAN BROOKS



Accident investigators and workmen examining the wrecked carriages across the rail lines after the crash near Watford on Thursday

'Black boxes' will yield vital clues for first time

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

INVESTIGATORS will have a second by second record of the trains' last movements from "black boxes" for the first time in a major passenger train collision in Britain.

The boxes, officially known as on-train data monitoring and recording devices, will give details of the speed of the trains, the state of the signals and when the drivers started braking and yield important clues for the inquiry team.

Electronic information from the boxes will be studied in minute detail over the next two days. Investigators will also study any recorded radio conversations between the signal box and the drivers and the electronic record of any signalling changes before the crash.

The signalling on the stretch of track where the accident happened was replaced in 1992 and there is as yet no evidence that it suffered a malfunction as in the Clapham crash in 1988. If no signalling problem is found suspicion will turn to human error and the possibility that one of the drivers passed a red light.

A driver approaching a red light would have to pass through at least two yellow warning signals first. These would have sounded a buzzer in the cab, which the driver would have to acknowledge by pressing a button, otherwise the train would have stopped. On passing a red danger light, a more strident bell alarm would have sounded, to which the driver would again have to respond to keep the train moving.

The system has been criticised by some safety experts because drivers passing through a succession of yellow lights sometimes press the response button automatically without noticing the change from a yellow to a red signal alarm.

Most agree that the installation of an Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system, which applies the brakes when a train passes a red light regardless of the driver's response, would have prevented the Watford collision. A system of ATP was one of the recommendations of the report into the Clapham crash but it would cost up to £1 billion to install across the network and British Rail, Railtrack and the Government have all said that the expense cannot be justified.

Chris Jackson, deputy editor of *Railway Gazette International*, said: "It's reckoned that ATP installation would work out at £14 million per life saved, whereas the rail industry average is about £2 million per life.

"So the figures don't add up and it seems that ATP will never be approved for regular use. If it is proved that one driver went through a stop light at Watford, then ATP might have prevented the accident."

Safe design kept injury toll down

By Our Transport Correspondent

THE strength of the sturdy steel framed carriages involved in the Watford crash helped to avoid a catastrophe on the scale of the 1988 Clapham disaster, in which 35 people died, rail experts said yesterday.

All 12 coaches involved in the accident were of class 321 design built in the mid 1980s and which largely remained intact in the collision. The design has been adopted on all trains built in Britain since the mid-1970s.

In contrast to the earlier generation of Mark One "slam door" rolling stock, of which 2,500 coaches are still in use, the more recent trains were designed not to crumple in collisions.

Most of the major fatal train crashes since the 1980s involving slam door trains have seen carriages ride over each other, wrecking their flimsy superstructures. Of the last 60 fatalities in rail crashes in Britain, 58 have involved Mark One rolling stock. Roger Ford, technical editor of *Modern Railways* magazine, said: "These trains have a superb body shell, making it as safe as any train in the world. The old Mark One stock was basically an undercarriage with a feeble body to keep the rain off passengers."

The Government and Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director, have been criticised for not insisting on the replacement of slam door rolling stock as a condition of the granting of franchises. Three major privatised commuter franchises, South West Trains, Network SouthCentral and South East, continue to use older rolling stock.

South West and Network SouthCentral will continue to use the trains for their seven-year franchises. But Générale des Eaux, the French company awarded the South East franchise earlier this week, has pledged to replace its stock within three years.

Survivor describes 'unreal' aftermath

By Tim Jones

A SURVIVOR of the Watford train crash described yesterday how the driver of the passenger train had stumbled from his cab and tried to help passengers who were trapped in the mangled wreckage.

Barry Keates, 61, said: "Suddenly, the driver started to sound his horn and then there was the most almighty bang. The carriage was thrown into the air and when it landed it was hanging down on its side."

Mr Keates, a semi-retired personnel officer who was travelling in the front carriage, said he saw the driver enter the compartment and try to help a badly injured man who was trapped beneath twisted metal.

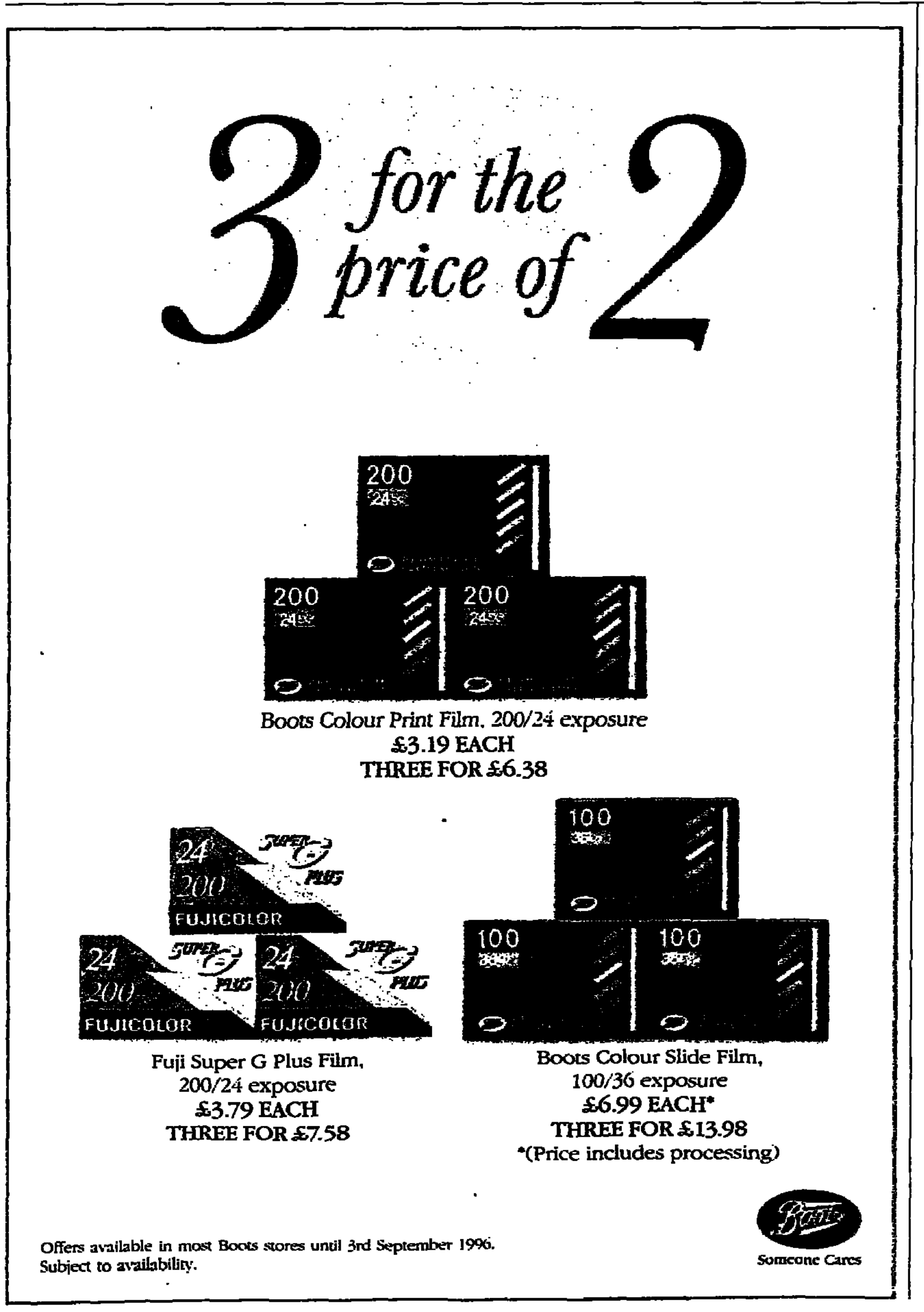
Mr Keates, from Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, who suffered a broken arm and cuts and was recovering in Watford General Hospital, said that he had also tried to reach the man, who was lying motionless on the floor, but failed. He added: "The driver shouted for us to be calm and said help was on the way.

"There was no panic, rather a sense of calm. It was unworldly and unreal."

Graham Belham, a consultant who treated the casualties admitted to the hospital, expressed surprise that so few people had been seriously injured. "We were lucky not to see major injuries to patients who had been trapped in the wreckage. How we avoided that, God only knows."

Mr Belham said that the luckiest survivor was a woman who had narrowly avoided being permanently disabled by a bone splinter which almost entered her spinal column. By far the worst injured, the woman will remain in hospital for at least eight weeks. Two others sustained spinal injuries to their necks.

Four other survivors were operated on yesterday, three for fractured limbs and another for deep lacerations caused by shattered glass.



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Teacher shot on holiday in Turkey

By Kathryn Knight

A BRITISH schoolteacher has been shot in the stomach after disturbing intruders at a holiday flat in Turkey. He was seriously ill in a Turkish hospital last night.

Michael Botterill, a science teacher from Coventry, was on a fortnight's holiday with his wife and two daughters at Side, on Turkey's Mediterranean coast, when he was woken by the intruders early on Wednesday. He was shot at close range after leaving his bedroom to investigate.

He underwent surgery at a hospital in Side but needs a further operation to remove the bullet. His wife, Elizabeth, and daughters, Madeleine, 16, and Zoe, 15, were at his bedside last night.

Mr Botterill teaches biology at The Woodlands, a boys' comprehensive school in Coventry. His brother-in-law, John Dixon, from Bridgnorth, Shropshire, said that he had holidayed in Side last year and had returned because he had enjoyed it so much.

Mr Botterill is expected to stay in hospital for another week. The intruders have not been caught.

Woman priest dies in 100ft plunge at African waterfall

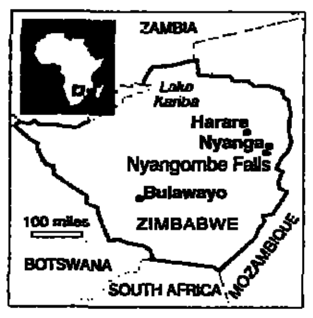
By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent, and Jan Raath

ONE of England's best-known women priests has died after falling into a waterfall while on holiday in Zimbabwe. The Rev Yvonne Irvine, 54, slipped on a ledge and plunged onto rocks in the turbulent water 100ft below.

She was visiting the Nyangombe Falls, near Nyanga in the Eastern Highlands, with her husband, Ron Harvey. Police said that she had ignored a sign warning visitors to keep back and walked to the edge of a precipice, where she lost her footing on a slippery rock overhang.

"She fell to her side into the main chute of water, which was running at full strength," said Wendy Waddacor, a member of the Nyanga Mountain Rescue Team who went to retrieve the clergywoman's body. "She was jetted straight down to the rocks at the bottom of the falls where the water sprays."

Ms Waddacor said that it had been impossible for the team to climb down to recover the body, and rescuers had to work their way round to the bottom of the falls from several miles away. They reached the body nearly six hours later. The fall happened shortly after the couple, who were married 18 months ago, started their two-week holiday. They had earlier enjoyed a picnic beside the falls with 37 other Christians in their tour party.



The former district nurse, who had four children and six grandchildren, became vicar of St Luke's Church in Beccles, Suffolk, after her ordination in April 1994. She was seen by millions of television viewers in a BBC2 documentary that year which told the story of how she became a priest.

She was born in the East End of London and turned to religion after the death of her first husband and the cot death of her first grandchild.

Ian Mayo, director of Oak Hall Expeditions of Sevenoaks, Kent, which organised the interdenominational holiday, said: "Her death is a great tragedy. It happened at a well-known beauty spot which is frequently visited by tourists."

The Rev Andrew Thomas, rector of St Michael's Church, Beccles, said: "My understanding is that they had gone on a mini-safari and had stopped for a picnic with other travellers. Yvonne was standing up and then somehow fell.

"She was a wonderful colleague with a lovely personality. The news is a terrible blow to all of us who knew her. She will be sadly missed. When God called her to Beccles, she was drawn by the social diversification of the town and was able to identify with a range of human need."

Before her ordination she spent three years as a curate at St Mary's Church in Walton, Felixstowe, Suffolk. Canon Simon Pettitt, of the St Edmundsbury diocese, said: "We are all shocked and saddened at the loss of a very talented priest."

Mr Harvey, a social worker, flew back to Britain yesterday. Arrangements for the return of his wife's body were still being made.

The Rev Yvonne Irvine, who remarried last year, with some of her grandchildren

Evans loses 200,000 Radio 1 listeners

By Carol Midgley

CHRIS EVANS has lost 200,000 listeners from his BBC Radio 1 breakfast show since March, it was disclosed yesterday. The audience for the presenter, who has been reprimanded eight times by the Broadcasting Standards Council since April last year, has dropped from 7.3 million to 7.1 million.

However, Evans's share of the available morning audience has risen to 15.2 per cent, according to figures from Rajar, the audience research organisation. He has also managed to increase the number of 15 to 24-year-olds listening to his show by 8 per cent. The total number of people listening to breakfast radio shows has declined by 5 per cent since March, possibly because people were watching this summer's sport on television and because of seasonal trends.

Iain Watt, of Freud Communications, which represents Evans, said: "All summer listening is down. The point is Chris has his highest market share yet, his reach, year on year, is up by 250,000 and it is the highest breakfast share since the second quarter of 1994."

Evans, 30, who also hosts the Channel 4 show *TFI Friday*, has been rebuked for breaching taste and decency.

Ice maidens: women scientists help to moderate boisterous all-male behaviour at Antarctic bases

Women take the heat out of macho Antarctic males

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

AN INCREASING number of women are being recruited to work in Antarctic bases, moderating the boisterous boys-only atmosphere and improving morale. Once the Antarctic was an all-male preserve, especially in winter, but the British Antarctic Survey now has experience of four winters with women on its bases.

Munro Sievwright, personnel officer, said: "It has gone very smoothly, with no significant problems. Our experience is that increasing the number of women has moderated what one might call loud rugby-club behaviour on the bases, and that's beneficial."

In the next Antarctic winter, Mr Sievwright expects to have at least four and possibly five women working, out of a total of about 45. The proportion is higher in the summer, when scientists can go to Antarctica for shorter periods. Then there may be 20 women out of a total of 150 or so.

Paul Rose, base commander at Rothera Research Station, said: "In groups which are male-only you can see a kind of boisterousness which can sometimes go over the top. In addition, you do sometimes get a kind of almost bullying or pressure being imposed by the majority on a silent minority. When you have mixed company people tend to be on their best behaviour. It's just common courtesy."

Mr Rose said that problems could arise because some scientists were working in Antarctica for up to 2½ years without a break while other might fly in for only a month. "I see them get bad news, I see the highs, the lows and the weaknesses which everyone has but which are not normally disclosed to a boss. Having women present does not solve all those problems but it does provide that moderating influence."

Julie Hall, 24, who has made two trips of two months, said: "Women can help to defuse tense situations. A woman can say to two men who are arguing 'Why don't you sit down and talk about it?' and they might listen, whereas a man would probably get a mouthful of abuse.

"When you first get there the men tend to fall into two types. There are the ones who treat you as an agony aunt and pour out their troubles and the ones who declare undying love for you. But after a while they get to know you and accept you as just another member of staff."

☐ Antarctic scientists are to postpone for a year a £2½ million drilling project because the ice is probably too thin to support the drilling equipment, an international meeting in Cambridge decided yesterday.

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Archaeologists make continual forays into capital's past before finds are obliterated by concrete

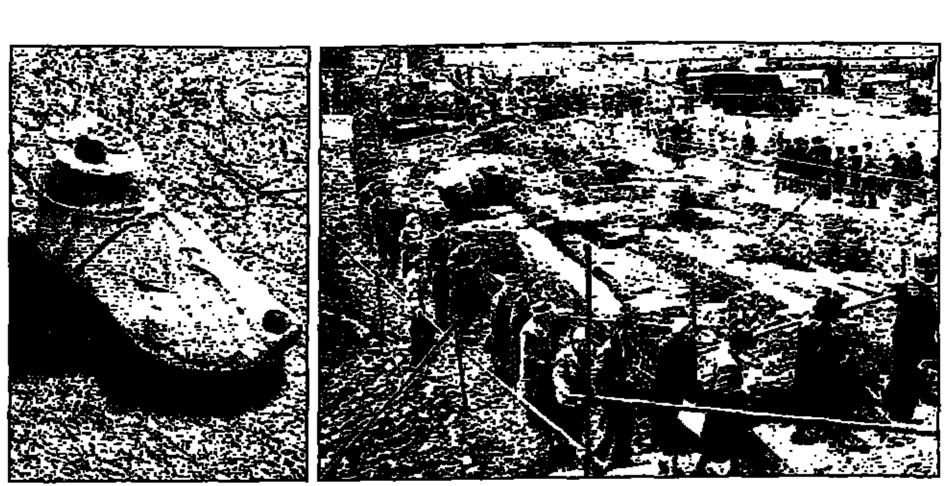
Londinium's treasures lie beneath every City street

By Alan Hamilton

ROMAN London is a bit of a conjuring trick: now you see it, now you don't. Such is the value of real estate in the Square Mile that no site lies vacant for long, but rescue archaeologists know that you cannot dig so much as a drain in the City without unearthing a Roman artefact or two, and every planning application to erect a new concrete monster has a statutory pause for historical investigation writ large in its conditions.

It rarely fails. London's present frontline redevelopment is No 1 Poultry, where the Mappin and Webb building has been bulldozed to make way for a post-modernist structure. The archaeological pause, which obliges the builders to retreat while the men with trowels sift the earth, has added £2 million to the developers' costs, but it has not been wasted. Last year the archaeologists uncovered a small copper-alloy lamp, now in the Museum of London.

Visible Roman London is thin on the ground, except for fragments of the city wall. The most substantial part remaining is in the part outside Tower Hill Underground station, where 15ft of Roman masonry is overlaid by medieval additions. The Museum of London sells the *London Wall Walk* (£1.95), a guide to tracing the route of the ancient walls; matching display boards are sited along the route. The museum (Tues-Sat 10-6, Sun 2-6, closed Mon except Bank holidays, admission free) is excellent, and tells the story of Roman London more fully than can ever be learnt from walking the unyielding streets, where almost every trace is obliterated by postwar development.



The clay oil lamp found last year during excavations for the Jubilee Line, and the crowds that flocked to view the Temple of Mithras after it was discovered in 1954

The greatest discoveries often happen by accident, and London's most significant Roman find of the decade has been the discovery of its amphitheatre. It was always presumed to exist, but no one knew quite where.

Recent excavation in the courtyard of Guildhall to build a City art gallery came across the eastern entrance and gravel surface of the arena, with two small shrine rooms on either side of the gateway. Close to the amphitheatre was also found a huge dump of broken glass, now assumed to be a recycling point and taken as evidence that the Romans melted down their old glass bottles for new.

Unlike most of London's Roman finds, which are obliterated by concrete within weeks of their discovery, the amphitheatre entrance will be preserved, and incorporated as a museum in the basement of the new gallery.

Excavation in the 1980s at Leadenhall Court, near the Lloyd's building, confirmed the existence of London's Roman Forum and its basilica, the largest town hall in the Roman Empire north of the Alps. Its size — it is a huge structure on a hill, three storeys high and 170 metres long — confirmed Londinium as one of the leading provincial capitals of the Empire.

It has all disappeared again under boom-years building, but the Museum of London has done magnificently in recording the known details and is building a credible model in its extended and reworked Roman galleries.

For years London's historians itched to knock down Cannon Street station because they believed that underneath they would find the grand palace of the governors who ruled Britannia from their Thames waterfront headquarters. Now they are coming to believe that the palace may lie elsewhere.

A decade of digging has, however, produced many more positive results: a large bath house in Lower Thames Street, timbers of the Roman waterfront at Regis House near London Bridge, dated by dendrochronology to AD 52 and found with three ingots from the Mendip lead mines stamped with the name of the emperor Vespasian; a possible pier of the original bridge; and the ornately decorated ceiling, in cinnabar and gold leaf, of a private bath house in Southwark.

The area south of the Thames is proving much more important than was at first thought. Excavations for the Jubilee Line Underground extension in Borough High Street have unearthed, among other treasures, a tiny and exquisite clay oil lamp in the shape of a foot.

London still talks of its most exciting postwar Roman find, the Temple of Mithras, discovered in 1954. After 40 years the substantive academic paper on that particular treasure has still not been published, although it may appear later this year. In the meantime, Londoners have to be content with a reconstruction of the temple at Temple Court in Queen Victoria Street, away from its original site.

A statue of the emperor Trajan at the Roman wall at Tower Hill station

Current excitement centres on a recent find on Tower Hill, which some are claiming is the remains of London's first Christian cathedral, built at the time of the emperor Constantine when the empire converted to the new religion. Jenny Hall, Roman curator at the Museum of London, said: "All we know at this stage is that it is a late, large Roman building."

There is little to see on the ground in the City, although the gate of the amphitheatre promises much when it eventually goes on public show. Otherwise there is little beyond a Roman mosaic floor in the Bank of England museum, a patch of Roman tessellated floor in All Hallows' church, Barking, and the London Stone (a dubious relic) displayed in a bank wall at 111 Cannon Street.

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Families buried their riches before they fled

By Bill Frost

IN THE final days of Empire, a wealthy Romano-British family fled through the Fens from a Suffolk villa knowing that the legions had left and their lives were in jeopardy.

Rather than abandon everything to Saxon barbarians and pirates, they buried their most valuable belongings in the hope that they could return when *Pax Romana* was restored. But the legions never came back and the Mildenhall Treasure remained undiscovered for 1,500 years.

Enjoying pride of place among the British Museum's magnificent collection of artefacts from Roman Britain, the hoard is made up of a canteen of the most lavish household silver. The largest piece, a dish 2ft across and weighing almost 18lb, shows Bacchus triumphing over Hercules.

There are beautifully made spoons too. Strangely though, given the decoration of the dish, they are marked with what appears to be a Christian monogram. Perhaps, given the dark days they faced, the family who owned the silver were willing to place their faith in any god, Christian or pagan.

While the Mildenhall Treasure remains on show at the British Museum in London, other priceless items are in the hands of conservators awaiting the opening of new galleries in August 1997.

The Hinton mosaic with its floor portrait of Christ — unearthed during the mid-1960s at Hinton St Mary in Dorset — will stay on display as well. So too will the Thetford Treasure: gold jewellery, silver spoons and dedications to the woodland god Faunus.

Catherine Johns of the museum admits that only a few items can be seen at present. However, she promises that major additions will be on view in the new galleries.

They will include the Hoxne Treasure, found in 1992 in Suffolk but buried some time after 407 AD. The hoard was, as at Mildenhall, concealed by a rich Suffolk family terrified at the threat posed by the breakdown of peace and determined to return and reclaim their wealth one day. The find includes 15,000 gold coins, gold jewellery and small items of silver tableware, including nearly 80 spoons.

Other items in the collection include a bronze head of the Emperor Hadrian, found in the Thames; a bronze head of the Emperor Claudius; and Christian wall paintings from the Roman villa at Lullingstone in Kent. There are also a bronze cavalry helmet unearthed at Ribchester in Lancashire and a limestone head of Mercury from Uley in Gloucestershire. Pride of place must go to the Vindolanda Tablets though — documents written on wood found at the site of a fort in Chesterholme, Northumberland, near Hadrian's Wall. Ms Johns says they clearly display the Empire's contempt for the conquered Britons. "Military intelligence reports among the tablets speak of the *Brittunculi* or little Brits — that's highly derogatory.

> ‘They left terrified at the threat posed by breakdown of peace’

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Credo

We know how to go to heaven but not how the heavens go

Fraser Watts

SO THERE may after all be life on Mars, though it is too soon for the scientific community to have evaluated the evidence fully. It needs to be emphasised that we are talking only about life of an extremely primitive kind.

We have recently become aware of the enormous variety of simple life-forms on Earth, and the inhospitable habitats in which they exist. So it is not surprising if similar very simple life-forms exist in many places in the universe. Whether the conditions exist anywhere else for the evolution of higher forms of life is a completely different matter, though it certainly cannot be ruled out.

The apparent discovery of life on Mars arouses strong feelings, excitement in some, alarm in others. Why do passions run so high about extra-terrestrial life? And does it raise any particular issues for Christians?

The debate about "other worlds" is a very old one. Aristotle argued that they were impossible, but more materialist Greek thinkers such as Epicurus defended the idea. This ancient, albeit half-forgotten, association between materialism and life on other planets may help to explain some current reactions. The debate continued within the Church. Aquinas, following Aristotle, argued against other worlds, but the more unorthodox 15th-century cardinal, Nicholas Cusanus, argued for an infinite universe and life on other planets.

A key problem in this debate was that the Church had become so accustomed to its long-standing synthesis of the scriptures and Aristotle that it too readily assumed that a challenge to one was a challenge to the other. In fact, the idea of life on other planets challenged Aristotelian science, not the Christian scriptures. It also perhaps challenged ideas about human supremacy, which again are not specifically Christian. The scriptures are simply silent on the matter. Certainly there is no mention of other worlds in Genesis. Equally, no great significance should be attached to the passing references to "worlds" (aionas) in Hebrews — translated in many modern versions simply as "the universe".

There is no reason why the scriptures should have referred either to other worlds, or to whether there was life on them. It is a mistake, as Augustine argued long ago, to turn to the scriptures for answers to scientific questions. Galileo was explicitly basing himself on this argument of Augustine when he quipped that the scriptures teach us "how to go to heaven, not how the heavens go!"

Most Christians would now accept that evolution is part of God's way of providing for the creation of different species. It is wrong-headed to debate whether it was God or evolution. Clearly, evolution was the process by which different species came into being, but this can be seen, at a different level, as the work and intention of God.

I assume that it was a particular part of God's purpose that spiritual beings should develop that had a capacity for a direct relationship with him. In the course of their evolution, many other species came into existence on Earth. It raises no new issues if forms of life exist on many other planets too. If there are spiritual beings elsewhere, the question will arise of how God has revealed himself to them. That would be an interesting question, though not a threatening one, and not one that arises now.

Fraser Watts is Starbridge Lecturer at Cambridge University, Fellow of Queens' College, and Chaplain of St Edward's Church.

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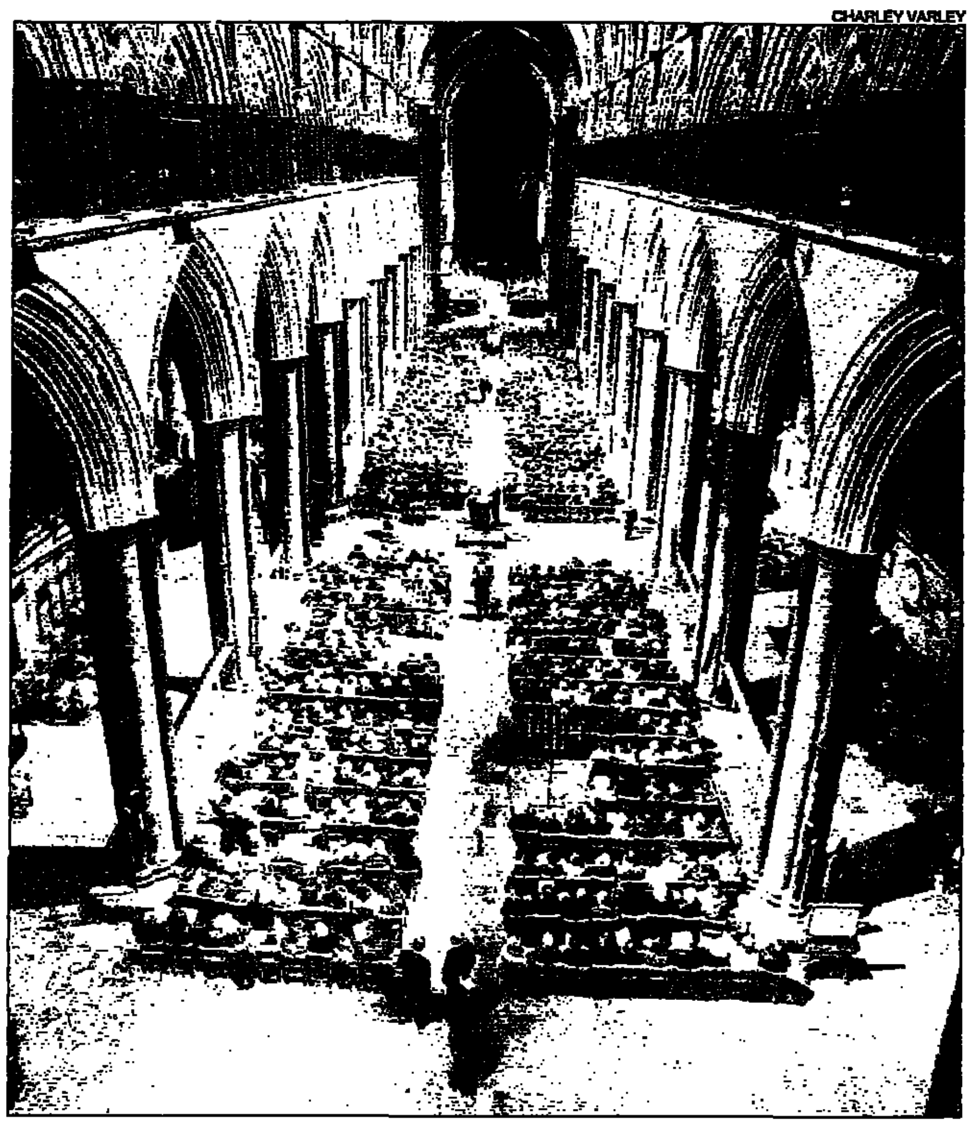

Salisbury Cathedral: the diocese was joint top of a league of Easter communicants

Steady support for the Church defies prophets of doom

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

ATTENDANCE in the Church of England is holding steady again after decades of decline, according to a report published yesterday.

Anglicans are also putting more into the collection plate, and church membership has increased slightly despite forecasts of mass defections over women priests.

The figures in *Church Statistics 1996* are the first clear indication that the falling rolls that have dogged the Church for much of this century might have bottomed out. However, a continuing decline in the number of confirmations and of children attending church indicate that it is too soon to speak of a revival.

The figures show wide regional variations. Carlisle and Salisbury dioceses topped a league table of Easter communicants at 62 per 1,000 people in the wider population, with Gloucester a close runner-up with 59. Birmingham came bottom with 19. Chelmsford and Southwark were next lowest with 21 and 23. Church officials pointed out that Birmingham and Southwark have large numbers of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs, and that many Anglicans visit famous cathedral cities to celebrate Easter.

The number of Anglicans registered on their parish's electoral roll, which entitles them to vote in elections to church bodies and can also help to secure places for their children in the local church school, rose from 1.4 million in 1990 to 1.48 million in 1994, the latest year for which figures are available.

Average Sunday attendance fell slightly between 1993 and 1994, from 1.09 million to 1.08 million, the smallest decline since 1980. The figures compare with a total mass attendance in the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales of 1.19 million, and Methodist attendance in Britain of nearly 350,000. With other denominations this suggests that, despite some reports of the secularisation of Britain, up to one in ten adults still attends church. The report shows that about 60 clergy resigned from the ministry last year over the ordination of women — about half the number expected — bringing the total number of clergy who have left over the issue to about 300.

Total income for the 13,000 parishes in England topped £300 million for the first time in 1994, increasing by 4 per cent in real terms, owing to increased giving as members nationwide responded to Church pleas to help to ease a financial crisis.

Church leaders are concerned about the falling number of children who go to church. Their numbers fell again in 1994, from 208,000 to 201,000. But there was cautious optimism over the report. Raymond Tongue, head of the Church's statistical unit, said: "There was talk of huge numbers of people moving out of the Church. The figures do not reflect that."

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Chechens encircle 7,000 troops in burning capital

By Richard Beeston in Moscow and Thomas de Waal

CHECHEN separatists dealt President Yeltsin and the Russian armed forces a humiliating defeat yesterday when the rebels routed government troops in Grozny and upstaged the presidential inauguration in Moscow.

In what must rank as one of the most extraordinary military setbacks of the 20-month conflict, lightly armed and heavily outnumbered rebels beat back about 10,000 Russian troops, many of whom were surrounded and cut off from reinforcements.

"The situation is totally out of the control of the federal command," said a senior Russian military official quoted by the Interfax news agency, who estimated that 7,000 soldiers were cut off in the city. "The units surrounded in Grozny are not even trying to attack the rebels, only limiting themselves to passive defence."

In four days of fighting, 120 Russians have been killed and 400 wounded. There is no accurate figure for civilian or rebel losses, but hundreds of Grozny residents are believed to have been injured.

Witnesses in the city appeared to confirm the report. Sergei Trofimov, the Tass correspondent, described how rebel attacks had left one government building "in ashes" and another in flames.

Last night, there was no end in sight to the fighting which has left thousands of civilians trapped in the centre of the city. A government statement called the rebels "bandits armed to the teeth" and said that Russian forces would relieve civilians caught in the fighting.

> ‘One Kremlin group orders the troops out of Grozny, while another tells them to take it’

With no electricity, water or food, thousands of residents of Grozny, which used to have a population of 400,000, have been forced to live in makeshift shelters as the street battles raged above them. So far, despite appeals from the International Red Cross, there has been no opportunity of evacuating wounded or even collecting the bodies that litter the city streets.

In one slender sign of hope last night, Sergei Slipchenko, secretary of Moscow's State Commission on Chechenia, told Russian news agencies that the two sides had discussed holding their fire to evacuate civilians and wounded. Movladi Udugov, the separatists' spokesman, told Mr Slipchenko that his side was willing to stop shooting for a time, Interfax said.

Late yesterday, the rebels in the centre of the city were reported to be pulling back from the government compound, where most of the fighting has raged, in what may be the start of an organised pullout. At least 20 reporters have been trapped there for the past few days.

The Grozny government headquarters was one of the few buildings in the heart of the city to have been repaired; much of the rest of the city centre is still a wasteland after the huge air bombardments at the start of the war. Now, once again, it has been reduced to rubble.

At the same time, other guerrilla units laid siege to the two airports near Grozny: Khankala, the military airbase, and Severny, where most top officials and commanders live in bunkers.

A Chechen family, crammed into a car, watch as Russian helicopter gunships attack targets in the devastated centre of Grozny yesterday

Whatever its eventual outcome, the fighting in Grozny has achieved one of the separatists' main aims, completely overshadowing President Yeltsin's inauguration in the Kremlin. Reports from the battlefield dominated news broadcasts to the detriment of the swearing-in ceremony.

Army spokesmen tried to regain the propaganda initiative from the Chechen fighters. Lieutenant-General Konstantin Pulikovsky, commander of Russian forces in the region, denied that the situation was deteriorating and conceded only that things in Grozny were "complex".

Despite his denials, it was clear last night that the guerrilla operation this week had been a huge success and that the separatist leadership, having achieved its aims, may well be considering withdrawing its forces.

The rebels once again have proved that they are a military force to be reckoned with and that the Russians are unlikely to conquer the Chechens by force of arms. Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, called the whole episode a humiliation for the Russian leadership and said the Kremlin was in a state of chaos, possibly because of the President's failing health. "On the day of the inauguration," said the opposition leader, who was defeated by President Yeltsin in last month's presidential race, "one group in the Kremlin is ordering the troops out of Grozny, while the other is ordering them to retake the city."

Megawati quizzed for over six hours

From Christopher Thomas in Jakarta

INDONESIA's pro-democracy leader, Megawati Sukarnoputri, was interrogated for more than six hours at police headquarters in Jakarta yesterday, and then told to return for more questioning next Thursday.

The orders amount to a growing campaign of intimidation to neutralise her as a symbol of popular dissent. Her supporters said they feared she might be charged with political crimes. That would bring a hostile international reaction and could provoke more pro-democracy riots despite a new "shoot on sight" policy.

The crackdown on the democracy movement has continued this week, with dozens of accused rioters charged with subversion, travel bans imposed on dissidents and arrests. The measures are being justified on the ground of possible "communist-type" subversion.

Miss Megawati answered a summons to present herself for questioning at 9am, but as she climbed out of her car she was surrounded by cane-wielding police trying to stop her being seen by journalists and photographers.

Police questions focused on public meetings she attended this summer, which went on every day for six weeks as a "democracy forum" and grew into one of the most serious opposition events for more than two decades. Resentment about the personal fortunes of President Suharto and his six children took up much of the discussion, as did accusations of high-level corruption and nepotism. The greatest criticism, however, was of the big divide between rich and poor that many analysts believe could erupt into a class war.

The summons said Miss Megawati was a witness to possible slander of the President. The forum was seen as challenging an all-powerful Government, which in June engineered her removal as leader of the Indonesian Democratic Party.

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Frailty of Yeltsin at terse inauguration raises health fears

From Richard Beeston in Moscow

AFTER more than a month's absence from public view, a frail-looking President Yeltsin was inaugurated yesterday as Russia's first democratically elected head of state.

But what should have been a celebratory and historic event looked at times more like a funeral. The audience of 3,000 local and foreign dignitaries watched in silence as the Russian leader went through his ceremonial duties, which lasted just 15 minutes, with obvious difficulty.

"I swear to respect and protect the rights and freedoms of the individual and the citizen while carrying out my duties as President of the Russian Federation," said the Kremlin leader, speaking hesitantly while resting his hand on a copy of the Russian constitution.

Although plans for a long and lavish ceremony were curtailed, there was still room for some pomp as members of the Kremlin Regiment in 19th-century uniforms marched on to the stage of the State Kremlin Palace and the boom of a 30-gun salute echoed across Moscow.

"Today inside the walls of the Kremlin, Russia greets its supreme state leader who once again steps on the path of serving the people and motherland in the post of the President of the country," said Aleksei II, the Orthodox Patriarch, who blessed the new head of state.

"On this remarkable day for you and for Russia I ask you, Boris Nikolayevich, to listen to the voice of Russia, the voice of its ancient history, the voice of the Russians who elected you," he said.

State-controlled television coverage deliberately avoided any close-ups of the President's face, possibly because of his puffy and sickly complexion. Nevertheless the clear expression of anxiety on the face of his wife, Naina, seated in the front row of the audience, seemed to confirm the worst fears about his poor condition.

"It was a sad occasion; he looked worse than I had expected," said one Russian guest close to the President's family. "I know that he recovered his health last year after a heart attack. We just have to hope he can do it again now."

The President's performance certainly did nothing to ease nagging questions about his physical ability to serve out his four-year term in office and govern Russia through the challenging period ahead. "Those voters who had hoped for a return of a newly inaugurated Yeltsin to provide Russian with strong leadership will be disappointed," Andrei Kortunov, a political analyst, said.

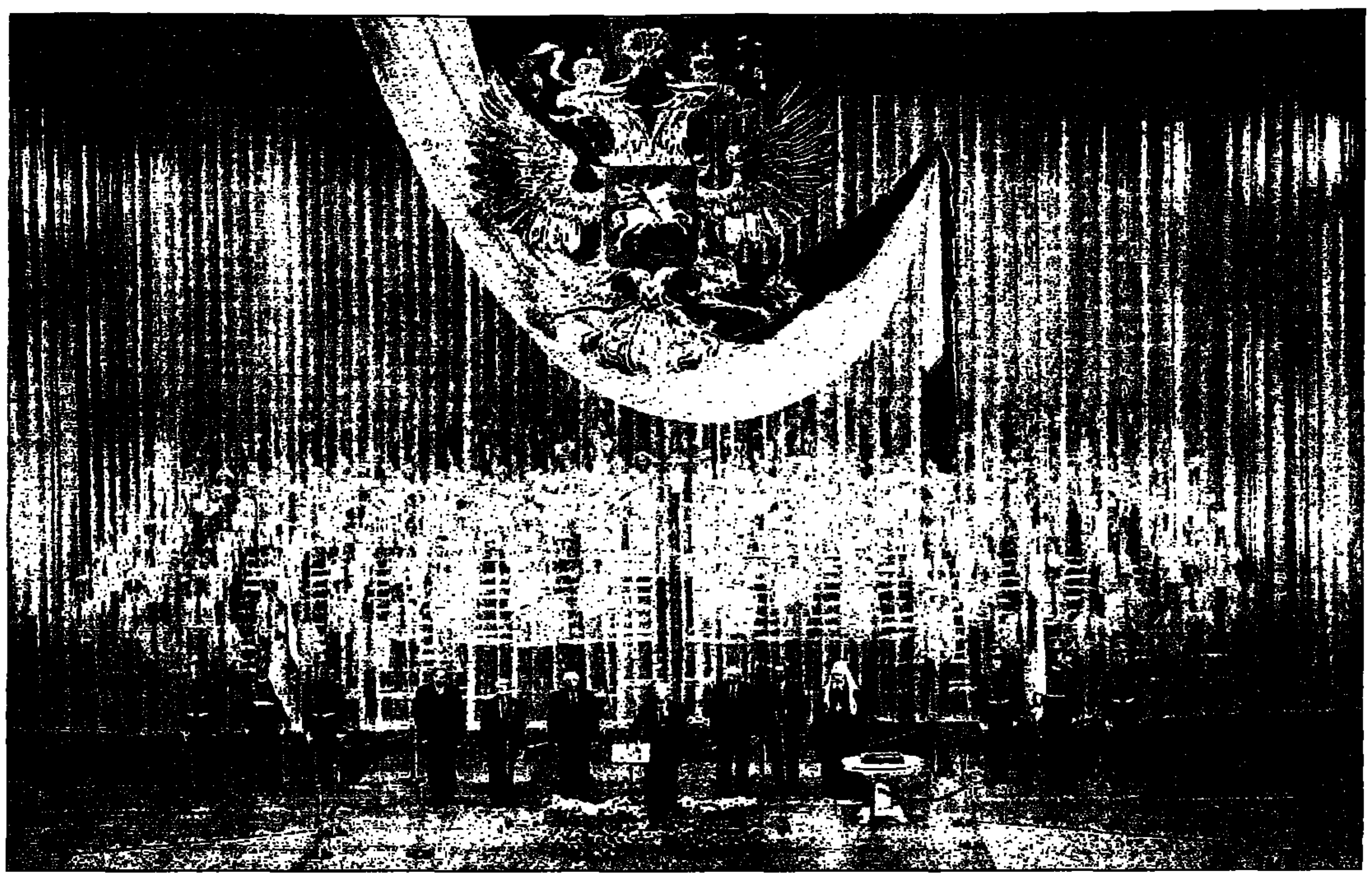
Opposition figures were quick to take up the theme, which could well dominate the debate in the run-up to the next round of elections in Russia this autumn, to choose regional governors. "It is awful, a tragedy for the country," said Vladimir Semago, a Communist member of parliament, who has consistently argued that President Yeltsin is unfit for office. He said: "Do you remember [Soviet leader Leonid] Brezhnev? He ruled the country for about ten years even though he was ill. This is a very big danger for our country."

More urgently, there was concern that, without decisive leadership in the Kremlin, there is little hope of reaching a peaceful solution to the conflict in Chechenia, where a fierce rebel offensive was in its fourth bloody day yesterday. Experts believe that the only hope lies with Viktor Chernomyrdin, who was renamed Prime Minister yesterday and whose confirmation is expected to pass at a special session of the Duma, the lower house of parliament, today.

Mr Chernomyrdin, who has consistently advocated a peaceful solution to the separatist war in the Caucasus, is expected to name his administration over the weekend and should then be in a position to govern, while President Yeltsin goes on extended holiday for at least a month.

Leading article, page 19

Patriarch Aleksei congratulates the ailing President



Boris Yeltsin takes the oath of office on a copy of the constitution during his inauguration yesterday as President of the Russian Federation

Echoes of tsarist past return to stir Russian forebodings

By Thomas de Waal

ALMOST exactly a century ago, on the last occasion that Russia held a ceremony in the Kremlin to swear in a head of state, the mood in Moscow was just as inauspicious as it was yesterday.

The crowning of Nicholas II, the last Russian Tsar, took place on May 26, 1896, in the Cathedral of the Assumption inside the Kremlin, a matter of yards from the considerably less beautiful glass-and-concrete Palace of Congresses where Boris Yeltsin was yesterday sworn in for his second term as President.

But bad portents spoilt the celebrations. First a lady-in-waiting pricked her finger, spilling blood on to the ermine of Alexandra, the Tsarina. Then, as the Tsar was standing in the cathedral, the Order of St Andrew dropped from his shoulder and clattered to the floor. Onlookers did not cheer the royal couple, who even then were not popular figures.

This, however, was as nothing to what happened four days later on the field of Khodynka, where ordinary Muscovites had gathered for a mass outdoor party. Rumours that the special coronation mugs were running out caused a stampede in the field, which was criss-crossed with ditches, and some 1,500 people were killed in the ensuing mêlée.

Against his better judgment, the new Tsar was persuaded to attend a ball given by the French Ambassador that evening. In superstitious Russia this was met with foreboding and seen as a bad omen for what then became a catastrophic reign. Just as with Mr Yeltsin, one observer said the Tsar looked "sick" and "obviously depressed".

Magazine, page 8

© TSAR — THE LOST WORLD OF NICHOLAS & ALEXANDRA

Nicholas II taking Communion before his inauguration

Milosevic discusses the fate of Karadzic

From Stacy Sullivan
in Sarajevo

JOHN KORNBLUM, the American envoy to the Balkans, met President Milosevic of Serbia in Belgrade yesterday to discuss the Serb Republic's violations of the Dayton peace accord which have been mounting over the past weeks.

At the top of Mr Kornblum's agenda is the question of what to do about Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader who has been charged with genocide by the International War Crimes Tribunal. Sources close to the negotiations said that there are a number of proposals, including locking up Dr Karadzic in a monastery and sending him to live with his mother in his native Montenegro.

Since the Dayton accord was signed in November, international mediators have focused their attention on how to remove Dr Karadzic from power before the country's elections on September 14, so they could stop him from influencing Serbs with his separatist rhetoric. Under the terms of the Dayton accord, the 60,000 Nato peace implementation force troops have a mandate to arrest Dr Karadzic if they come across him in the course of their duties.

But as military leaders continued to insist that they had not seen the highly visible leader, frustrated civilian leaders began using whatever means they could to quell Dr Karadzic's influence.

Carl Bildt, the international community's High Representative, and Richard Holbrooke, the architect of the Dayton accord, forced Dr Karadzic to hand over his presidential powers and step down as head of the Serb Democratic Party. But they concede that, as he remains in the village stronghold of Pale, he is still able to manipulate events behind the scenes.

However, with the elections so near, many diplomats fear that forcing Dr Karadzic to The Hague would give him an even higher public profile and destabilise the Serb Republic.

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Inquiry spells threat to Bank of France chief

From Susan Bell in Paris

THE troubled French franc dropped sharply yesterday after the Government announced a criminal investigation against the former directors of Crédit Lyonnais, a move that could threaten the Governor of the Bank of France, Jean-Claude Trichet.

Jean Arthuis, the Minister of Finance and Economics, sent a formal request to the Minister of Justice on Thursday to pursue former senior directors at Crédit Lyonnais for "failure to control its subsidiaries". The state-owned bank was driven to the brink of bankruptcy by losses incurred largely by over-aggressive expansion in the late 1980s. There have also been allegations of fraud.

Although an inquiry is already under way, this is the first time the Government will have investigated directors personally. Those targeted may include Jean-Yves Haberer, bank chairman from 1988 until 1993 when the Government forced him out after it became clear that the bank was in severe difficulties.

The French press yesterday saw the Government's prosecution call as partly motivated by President Chirac's desire to destabilise or humble M Trichet, champion of the "franc fort". The Gaullists are anxious to stimulate the stagnant economy before the 1998 parliamentary elections. M Trichet's orthodox policies have been blamed in government circles for a record 12.5 per cent unemployment.

Not only do M Trichet and M Chirac not see eye-to-eye on fiscal policy, personal relations are cool. M Trichet is a former chief aide to Edouard Balladur, M Chirac's fellow Gaullist rival in the 1995 presidential elections. M Chirac lambasted M Trichet's thinking during his campaign and criticised the Governor last month over caution in cutting interest rates.

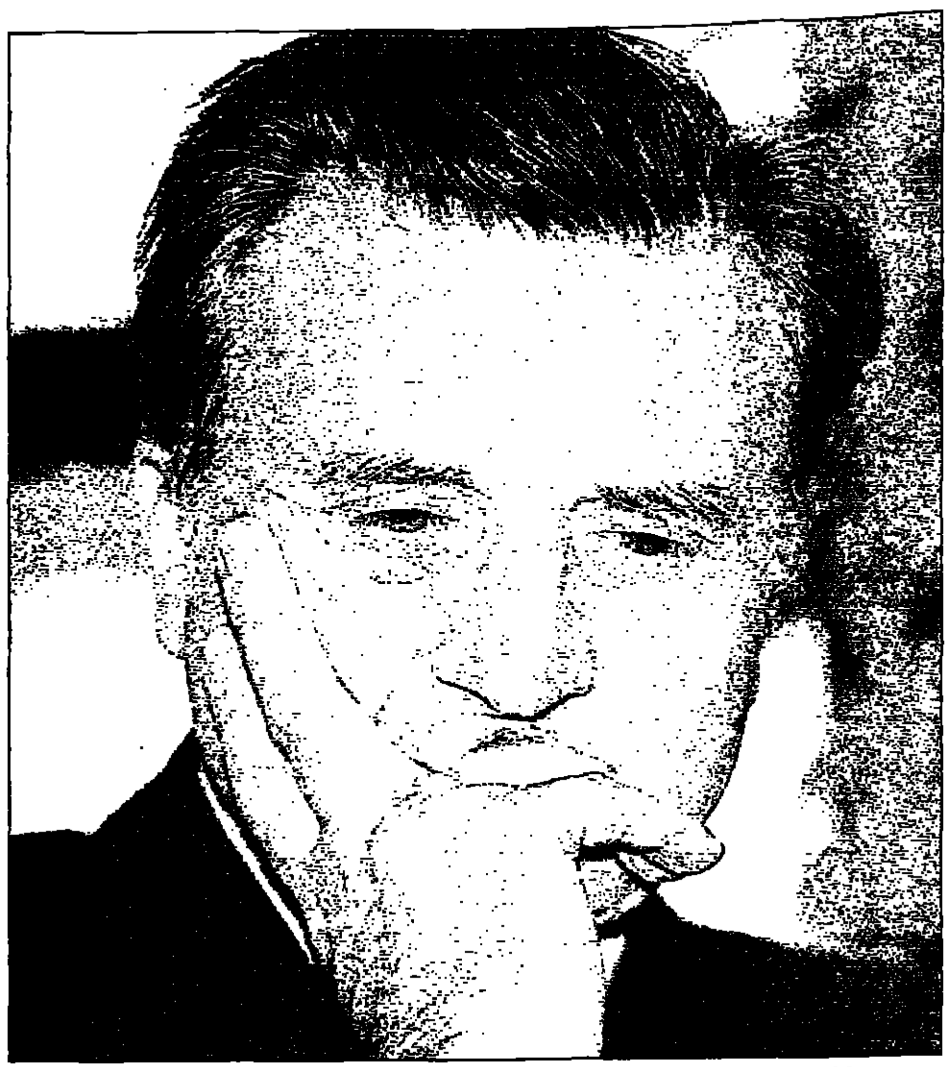
"Some people in high places would not be unhappy to see the current Governor of the Bank of France ... seriously destabilised," an analyst wrote in *Le Monde* yesterday.

As the rumour that M Trichet's position could be threatened swept through French financial markets, the franc fell as low as 3.4184 against the mark, down from 3.4060 late on Thursday. At close of business it was trading at 7.82 against the pound. French bonds, stocks and interest rate futures were all weaker midday yesterday.

M Trichet, director of the Treasury from 1987-93 when the bank recorded some of the largest losses in French corporate history, was responsible for supervising state-controlled banks. According to M Trichet, he was the first to alert the Government to the Crédit Lyonnais problems, calling for an investigation in October 1991.

M Arthuis said his call for a criminal investigation was prompted by new information on the bank's losses, but *Le Monde* said no new revelations existed. "This is about who is the boss in France on economic policy," said one French bank economist, who asked not to be identified. "Chirac cannot stand the fact that Trichet is making monetary policy."

M Chirac's office yesterday dismissed as baseless French press reports that the Crédit Lyonnais judicial investigation was aimed at forcing M Trichet's resignation.



M Trichet, who angered M Chirac by backing a party rival for the presidency

Leaflet ban suspended

Paris: The French Government yesterday won suspension of a decree by Jacques Bompard, the far-right Mayor of Orange, which banned handing out leaflets in the southern town's streets, local authorities said.

The National Front Mayor, who last month was reported to have banned books with a left-wing bent from the library, issued the order last week. The Marseilles administrative tribunal judged the decree a serious attack on freedom of expression. *(Reuter)*

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CHANGING TIMES

TWA jet evidence 'points to accident'

From Quentin Letts
in New York

SIGNS of extensive burning on the right wing of the TWA jumbo jet which crashed off Long Island last month led investigators to "move away fast from the bomb theory" yesterday.

A source close to the investigation said that experts from the US National Transport Safety Board were placing a higher probability on the crash having been an accident, although officially nothing is being ruled out.

James Kallstrom, the senior FBI official in the investigation, said that three theories — accident, bomb, and surface-to-air missile — were still being considered as reasons for the crash of TWA Flight 800 in which 230 people died.

The weight being given to an accident came after the retrieval of the Boeing 747's right wing, which was found to be badly charred. The burn marks continued on to the central area of the fuselage of the aircraft, raising the possibility that one of the engines had exploded.

"That centre part of the aircraft is the focus of interest," said Robert Francis, a safety board spokesman. "There is a lot of fire damage there." Investigators believe that an empty fuel tank in that part of the Boeing 747 may have exploded.

Mr Francis said that a warning which was issued by the Federal Aviation Administration about potential fire dangers from fuel tank pumps in 747s was "not related" to the TWA crash. Boeing engineers have been involved in the investigation from the earliest stage.

The scorched centre section of the jumbo jet will be reassembled, as closely as possible, in a Long Island hangar. The crucial piece of wing was covered in a blue tarpaulin when it was lifted from the sea on to the back of a waiting lorry. This move, apparently done to frustrate press photographers and television cameras, was unusual. Most pieces of the aircraft which have been recovered have been shown freely.

If the crash is shown to have been caused by mechanical failure, that would mean it could happen again.

WORLD SUMMARY

Netanyahu wife wins support

Jerusalem: Sarah Netanyahu, Israel's First Lady, has received the support of Suha Arafat, the wife of Yassir, the Palestinian Authority President, over her "nanny trouble" (Ross Dunn writes).

Two of Mrs Netanyahu's former nannies went public in July to complain about her alleged tyrannical behaviour. This prompted her husband, Binyamin, to rally to his wife's defence. Now Mrs Arafat, who employs a British nanny to look after her daughter Zahwa, said she too sometimes had differences with her employee.

"I also often argue with my nanny ... so what?" she told *Yediot Aharonoth*. "We are all human beings and we all have good days and less good days ... I believe that Sarah Netanyahu should in no way apologise or justify herself." Mrs Arafat also said she was open to meeting Mrs Netanyahu but only after their husbands had met first.

Man 'murdered five of his family'

Athens: Theofilos Sechidis, 24, has been charged with killing five members of his family, dismembering them and burying them at a rubbish tip. Police claimed the law student had confessed to murdering his parents, sister, grandmother and an uncle on the island of Thasos in May. He allegedly told police that he had murdered the five over five days. Police said he shot his father and uncle and stabbed the others. *(AP)*

Police chief's daughter killed

Warsaw: The daughter of Poland's police chief has died in Hamburg after a passer-by found her lying unconscious with head wounds on a street near her home in the German city, a police spokesman said in Warsaw yesterday.

Malgorzata Seifert was discovered on Tuesday morning and died later in hospital from her injuries. She had been seen earlier in a Hamburg restaurant. *(Reuter)*

Burundi ruler remains defiant

Bujumbura: Major Pierre Buyoya, above, Burundi's military leader, was defiant yesterday after neighbouring Rwanda said it was cutting road and air links. The American Embassy in Bujumbura advised US citizens to leave the country, under siege from a growing economic blockade imposed by East and Central African leaders to return Burundi to civilian rule. *(Reuter)*

Ethiopia blamed for Somali raid

Nairobi: Aid workers said helicopter gunships, believed to be Ethiopian, had attacked a town in western Somalia. A Somali Muslim faction accused Ethiopia of killing more than 100 people in the attack, thought to have been prompted by Ethiopia's belief that its Islamic fundamentalists receive support from groups in western Somalia. *(Reuter)*

Gold medallist bids farewell to tin shack

From Inigo Gilmore in Johannesburg

JUST days after South Africa's first black Olympic gold medallist returned home in triumph, Josiah Thugwane is already tasting the fruits of his success.

He will soon move out of his tin shack into a house bought by his provincial government.

Matthews Phosa, ANC premier of Mpumalanga, Mr Thugwane's home province, has announced that the marathon winner will be given a new home which he and his wife will select next week.

Mr Thugwane, who is a miner, said that he had wanted to move out of his township in Bethal after he was hijacked in March. He was seized then by four men and thrown from the car after being shot in the chin. With the help of his mining company, he made a dramatic recovery from his injuries and won a place in the Olympic team.

There are several roadshows planned in the weeks ahead and an all-night party for the runner next Friday night will be paid for by the province.

The blood of a slaughtered ox will be left to run into the ground outside Mr Thugwane's home when the premier visits the township today.

هكذا من الأصل

Dole picks running-mate for last-chance convention

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE finally settled on his running-mate yesterday and will today announce what he called the most important decision of his campaign in his hometown of Russell, Kansas.

The Republican presidential nominee claimed that on a scale of one to ten his man — or woman — was "probably an 11". The hot favourite was Jack Kemp, President Bush's mercurial former Housing Secretary, who was besieged by reporters during a visit to Florida, but confirmed only that he had made the shortlist.

Dole aides refused to rule out others, including Connie Mack, a Florida senator, but the fact that Mr Dole began considering Mr Kemp only late this week suggested that none of the previous field had quite measured up.

Mr Dole was contacting his choice last night. The plan — probably forlorn — was to smuggle whoever was chosen into the tiny town of Russell and keep the identity secret until the person emerged with Mr Dole for the formal announcement on the courthouse steps in the early afternoon. Mr Kemp is the darling of the tax-cutting, pro-growth Reaganite wing of the party. He has energy, flair and national stature, and his selection would undoubtedly galvanise next week's Republican Party convention in San Diego. But it would also suggest a measure of desperation, because the two men have never got on. They were rivals for the Republicans' 1988 presidential nomination; Mr Kemp endorsed Steve Forbes for this year's nomination, and he and Mr Dole have deep differences on social and economic issues.

Mr Dole will fly to San Diego tomorrow with his running-mate knowing that no other modern presidential candidate has ever arrived at his party's convention in such a weak position.

A batch of new polls put Mr Dole anywhere from 20 to 30 points behind President Clinton — the sort of deficit from which no candidate has ever recovered to win this late in a campaign. Only once since 1952 has the candidate trailing on Labor Day at the start of September managed to overtake his rival by November.

A Gallup poll showed that Mr Dole received no boost from the new economic proposal calling for $548 billion (£353 billion) in tax cuts that he unveiled on Monday, with a majority not believing he would deliver. A remarkable 64 per cent considered Mr Clinton's presidency a success. A *New York Times* poll showed 75 per cent believed Mr Clinton would be re-elected, as did nearly half of Mr Dole's supporters. The President has grown so confident that this week, during his twenty-sixth visit to the key electoral state of California, he spoke for the first time of the Democrats not only holding the White House, but also of regaining control of Congress. Mr Clinton yesterday began a week's holiday at Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

The convention is Mr Dole's last chance to turn the race around, and the organisers are striving to make it the opposite of the party's 1992 convention, where the perceived intolerance of right-wingers such as Pat Buchanan turned off millions of centrist voters.

Mr Buchanan has been barred from speaking, despite winning 3.1 million primary votes. Newt Gingrich will keep a low profile despite being convention chairman. The event has been tailored for television, with no speeches exceeding eight minutes, and the podium will be dominated by reassuringly moderate figures such as Colin Powell, George Bush and Gerald Ford.

Mr Dole will be formally nominated on Wednesday evening after introductions by his wife Elizabeth and 41-year-old daughter Robin, and will deliver his acceptance speech on Thursday.

Tim Hames, page 18

Cardinal's meatless protest

New York: America's Roman Catholics were urged to show their distaste for President Clinton's policy on abortion by returning to the tradition of eating no meat on Fridays (Quentin Letts writes).

Cardinal John O'Connor, Archbishop of New York and the most prominent Catholic prelate in the United States, called on the country's 52 million Catholics to revert to the "no meat on Friday" rule for a year as "compensation for the sins of a nation that has permitted this horror" of late-term abortions.

Since Vatican II in 1966, many American Catholics have stopped denying themselves meat on Fridays. The practice has been dated back to Pope Nicholas I (858-867).

Cardinal O'Connor's comments in a New York church newspaper refer to President Clinton's veto of a Bill to outlaw certain terminations after 20 weeks of gestation.

Jack Kemp: would only confirm he was on Bob Dole's shortlist

Christian Right wired up for battle

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

ARMED with a war room, 102 crack political whips and enough technology to conquer their moderate foe, the forces of America's Christian Right were fully prepared yesterday to counter any skirmish at the Republican National Convention in San Diego.

The sheer number of Christian Coalition members and the scale of planning for next week's convention are unprecedented. Ralph Reed, its executive director, says that he is prepared for even the faintest waver by the party leadership over abortion, the most contentious issue. "Our goal was to have the largest number of religious conservatives ever on the floor of a national convention and to have those delegates linked in a sophisticated high-tech communications system," Mr Reed said.

The coalition expects to have at least 500 members and supporters among the 3,980 delegates and alternates in San Diego. The digital system they will use for communications, employing a special radio frequency recently approved by the Federal Election Commission, is the most advanced ever at a party convention.

Whips will each operate hand-held computers, specially designed for the coalition, to be in constant contact with the command centre. When an important vote is about to take place, the whips will canvass delegates and send an accurate estimate of the expected ballot via one of 15 communications hubs to the coalition's "generals" in a sealed "war room" outside. At the nerve centre, in a hotel the organisation has refused to name for fear of infiltration, strategists with tally sheets, computers and other political machinery will assess the strength of the vote. Instructions will be relayed back to the whips who, in turn, will inform the delegates. Co-ordination will be so fast, according to Mike Russell, a coalition official, "that there can be not just a message of the day, but a message of the hour or the minute".

Whether such battle readiness is necessary remains to be seen. Republican leaders last week managed to avoid a divisive floor fight over abortion and it seemed clear last night that Bob Dole, the Republican candidate, would choose a vice-presidential running-mate who is anti-abortion. The Christian Coalition has been assiduous at working for its delegates to be elected at state conventions, including non-party members opposed to abortion, and has budgeted $750,000 (£490,000) for the convention. The convention platform committee, which writes the Republican manifesto, has a far greater proportion of abortion opponents than does the party.

Peverill Squire, a professor of political science at the University of Iowa, said that although the coalition would attempt to offer a moderate face to the convention, Mr Dole would have no flexibility on issues which the organisation deemed core to its values.

Immoral majority, Magazine, page 26

Guard in line for apology by FBI

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

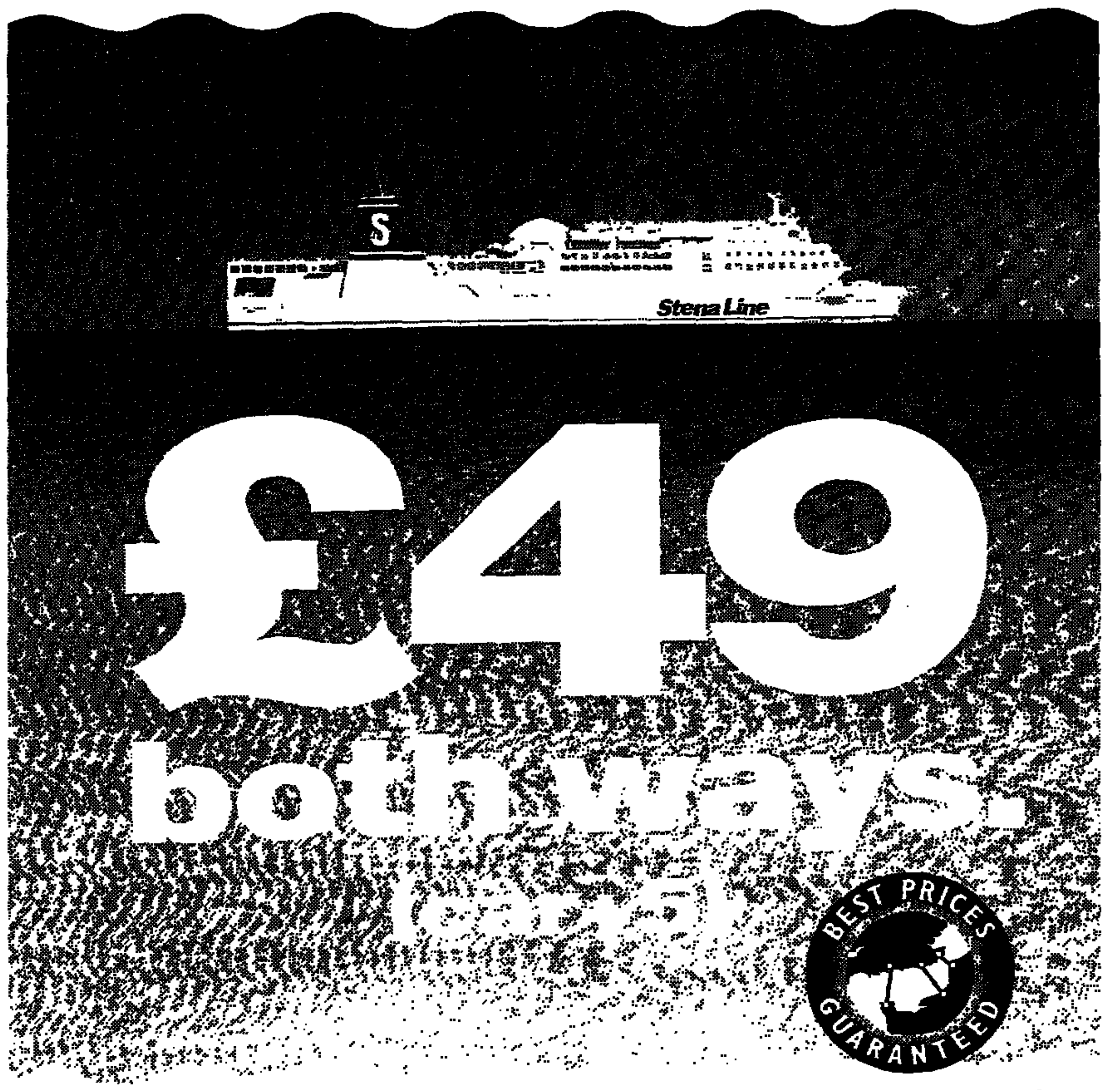
RICHARD JEWELL, the Atlanta security guard who was identified very publicly by the FBI as a suspect for the Olympics Centennial Park bomb, may be in line for a public apology.

The FBI in Atlanta yesterday tried to deny a confident CBS Television News report that it intended to say sorry to Mr Jewell, who was all but found guilty of the bombing by the media after a rumoured tip from investigators. However, the bureau said that it was forming a taskforce to investigate the bombing, a sign that it feels the case has some way to run. Mr Jewell, clearly, is not the last word in the investigation.

Meanwhile, a tape of the response by operators on the police emergency telephone line to a warning call by the bomber told a sorry tale of disorganisation, stupidity and Southern lassitude. After the unknown man telephoned to say "there is a bomb in Centennial Park — you have 30 minutes" there was a ten-minute delay while the message was digested. A voice at the emergency centre is heard saying at one point on the tape: "I ain't got no Centennial Park, what y'all think I am?"

At another point the operator asked the police dispatcher: "You know the address to Centennial Park?" Dispatcher: "Girl, don't ask me to lie to you." Operator: "I tried to call the Agency Command Centre, but ain't got nobody answering the phone . . . But I just got this man talking about there's a bomb set to go off in 30 minutes in Centennial Park." Dispatcher: "Oh, Lord, child. One minute, one minute. Uh, OK, wait a minute. Centennial Park. You put it in the computer and it won't go in?" Operator: "No, unless I'm spelling Centennial wrong. How are we spelling Centennial?"

The park could not be found on the police computer for the simple reason that it was a prefabricated affair and did not feature on maps.



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Yeltsin's pulp fiction favourite is a crusader with an uncanny resemblance to Lebed

Russia's novel Rambo

MOSCOW FILE

by RICHARD BEESTON

AS RUSSIANS head off in their millions to the balmy shores of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, young and old, rich and poor will share at least one item in common when they pack their beach bags. Wherever you find Russians on holiday this summer there is a good chance of spotting one of the gaudy book covers of Viktor Dotsenko, the uncontested king of Russian pulp fiction, whose thrillers dominate the country's bestseller list.

The action-packed novels, a Russian version of Rambo, follow the exploits of Besheny, an Afghan War veteran who returns to Russia to fight the mafia, terrorism, evil KGB generals, masons, the CIA, and just about anybody else who gets in his way.

The series is such a hit that all six books are in the top ten bestseller list in Russia, with his latest novel about the Soviet Communist Party's gold reserves dominating the paperback and hardback lists.

Not surprisingly, Dotsenko's spectacular success — he has sold more than four million copies and become a household name — has been greeted with sniffy disapproval from the country's intelligentsia as further proof of Russia's moral and cultural decline. In a country where great writers are still revered, it is a sensitive point among the literati that Dotsenko and Western best sellers, such as Stephen King, are sold in their millions while works by authors such as Alexander Solzhenitsyn are almost impossible to find.

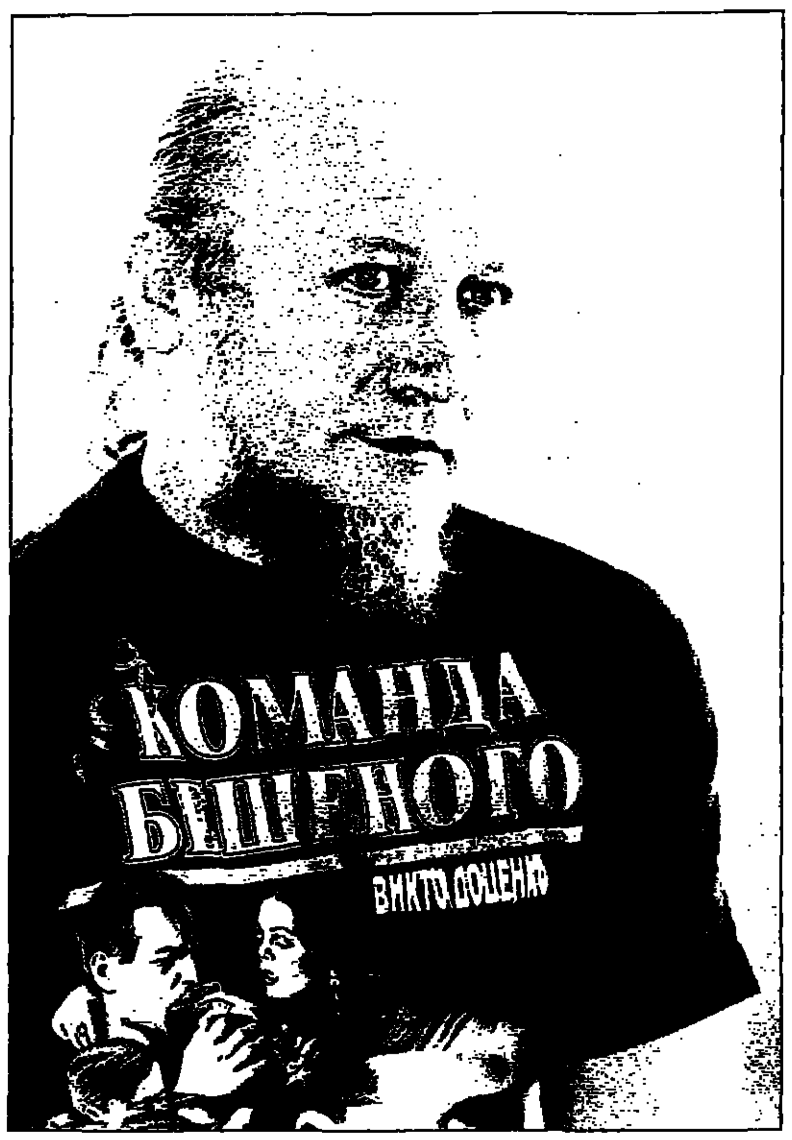
However, the author likes to point out that his thrillers are at least based in part on his dramatic first-hand experiences rather than the musings of a hack writer.

"Soon after the Soviet invasion I went to Afghanistan as a journalist and was shot in the stomach and badly wounded," he recalls. When he returned and started to write about his experiences he quickly fell foul of the authorities and was placed in a jail and a psychiatric ward for six years on trumped-up charges of rape. Certainly, his common touch seems to have struck a chord across Russian society, where his devoted readers include President Yeltsin and Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister. Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, is such an avid fan that he sends a driver round to collect a proof edition of his latest novel before it has hit the streets.

Dotsenko's only famous detractor is Naina Yeltsin, the President's wife, who apparently threw away a copy of his book in disgust at the colourful, barrack-room language and his explicit sexual chapters, which he boasts proudly of introducing into modern Russian literature.

Whatever the final judgment on Dotsenko's literary contribution, there is no doubt that he has developed the knack of anticipating the public mood in Russia.

His hero, who safeguards Russia's security from foreign spies, evil mafiosi and corrupt officials, bears an uncanny resemblance to General Aleksandr Lebed, the Afghan War veteran who won the support of millions of Russian voters this year by promising to do the same thing — if he became President.



Viktor Dotsenko wears a T-shirt bearing the cover of his latest book

Bandits' road to riches

RUSSIAN motorists are accustomed to potholes as big as cars, bribe-taking policemen and drunk drivers. But the Interior Ministry's recent announcement that 500 vehicles had "disappeared" off the roads in 1995 shocked even the most hardened motorist.

The authorities have identified five particularly treacherous stretches of highway in the Caucasus, the Urals, Siberia and near Moscow where bandits prey on passers-by. The modern highwaymen select remote stretches to ambush their victims, from travellers in private cars to entire busloads of traders.

Defeated in rural retreat

HALF a year ago he was still one of the most influential figures in world diplomacy. But today Andrei Kozyrev is the latest victim of the cut-throat rules of Russian politics.

Although the former minister served President Yeltsin dutifully for five years, his past loyalty cannot protect him now. According to the *Moskovsky Komsomolets* newspaper, the latest humiliation befell Mr Kozyrev shortly after the rise to power of General Aleksandr Lebed, the Kremlin's security supremo.

Both are members of the Duma, the lower house of parliament, and enjoy numerous privileges, including access to state-owned dachas — weekend homes.

Until recently, Mr Kozyrev had a luxurious stone country house in Arkhangelskoye, a fashionable area outside Moscow once favoured by the Soviet elite. Then he was given two days to clear out his belongings, and General Lebed was told a new residence was ready for him. He turned down the offer and elected to keep his humble wooden dacha, which has no heating or running water.

The decision came too late for Mr Kozyrev, who is now looking for a new place to spend his weekends.

Malraux to join Pantheon heroes

By Ben Macintyre

THE ashes of André Malraux, the great writer who went on to become France's first Minister of Culture, are to be transferred to the Panthéon in Paris, the highest honour France can bestow.

The date of the transfer has yet to be announced, but celebrations are planned for September and November to coincide with the twentieth anniversary of Malraux's death, including films, conferences and a poster campaign.

The reputation of the author of *La Condition Humaine* and *L'Espoir*, who became a celebrated guardian of France's cultural heritage, has continued to grow since his death at the age of 75.

The Panthéon, built on the Mont Sainte-Geneviève and completed in 1790 by Jean-Baptiste Rondelet, was intended as a church but became a temple for the ashes of France's greatest heroes during the Revolution.

Over the last decade the remains of just four people have been moved there: the Nobel peace prizewinner René Cassin in 1987; Jean Monnet, the economist regarded as the founding father of the EEC in 1988; and Nobel prizewinning physicists Pierre and Marie Curie, the only woman to be accorded the honour, in 1995.

Born in Paris in 1901, Malraux sought to use art to fight against what he saw as the corruption of the times. Writer, philosopher of art, adventurer, amateur archaeologist (he was charged with robbing Cambodian temples in the 1920s), Malraux witnessed some of the great events of the century. Highly political, he fought on the republican side in the Spanish Civil War and was a Resistance leader in the Second World War.

He later surprised left-wing friends by joining the Government of General Charles de Gaulle, becoming Minister of Culture between 1959 and 1969, when he initiated the renovation of the capital's historic monuments. He died on November 23, 1976.

Final call for French airport rabbits

From Ben Macintyre
in Paris

ARMED men will take over parts of Charles de Gaulle airport next month in an attempt to reduce the booming rabbit population which has built a vast network of burrows round the runways.

An estimated 50,000 rabbits have taken up residence in the 5,000-acre airport, northeast of Paris, since the area was first fenced off more than 20 years ago. The two gamekeepers employed by the Government to control the local fauna say that the rabbits are breeding so fast that radical measures are necessary to tackle the infestation.

The creatures treat the 1,000 daily flights in and out of the airport with perfect insouciance, for Charles de Gaulle is an ideal rabbit habitat: verdant, without human habitation and virtually free of predators. The only drawbacks, from a rabbit perspective, are the occasional fox and the noise. The authorities have made periodic efforts to prevent Charles de Gaulle turning into Watership Down, including regular ferreting campaigns, but with little success.

The country that invented *terrine de lapin* and other such delicacies, however, is not about to let so much free food go to waste, and in September selected hunters will be issued with licences permitting them to shoot the rabbits in the distant parts of the airport. There is little sport involved in airport rabbit-hunting, since after years of fear-free existence the animals are almost tame.

"The rabbits are quite healthy," Joel Genty, the airport's environmental supervisor, told the *International Herald-Tribune*. "They eat very well here and their meat does not taste like jet fuel or anything like that."

Rabbits have also taken over large parts of the other Paris airport at Orly, and gamekeepers say they are a growing danger because they bite into landing light cables and their warrens threaten to undermine the runways.

Bikers spark Cyprus fears

Nicosia: British soldiers in Cyprus are braced for violence tomorrow when 7,000 Greek Cypriot motorcyclists protesting against the island's division will try to cross the buffer zone into the Turkish-held North (Michael Theodoulou writes). Turkish troops have been ordered to shoot any who succeed.

It is viewed as potentially the most explosive demonstration since 1974, when Turkey invaded the northern part of the island.

Anger over jet detour for ailing Nkomo

Harare: Zimbabwe's Vice-President, Joshua Nkomo, had a direct flight from London to Harare diverted at state expense to Cairo to fetch him and his staff (Jan Raath writes).

Angry passengers said they received a letter informing them of the diversion as they checked in at Gatwick airport on Monday. Mr Nkomo, 79, was being treated in Cairo after an operation for prostate cancer. Neither he nor his staff of ten were at the airport when the plane landed, and the flight was delayed further because "his luggage took so long to load", one passenger said. Passengers were kept on the aircraft throughout.

Air Zimbabwe apologised for the three-hour detour but said the request "required our support". Last year Mr Nkomo was quoted as saying: "If we want to get on an aeroplane, we just tell the passengers to get off."

Art Editions

Degas: Beyond Impressionism at The National Gallery

EXHIBITION OPEN UNTIL 26TH AUGUST 1996

LAST FEW WEEKS

Three Degas prints for £12

THE PICTURES by Edgar Degas illustrated here are among the 90 drawings, pastels, paintings and sculptures displayed this year at the National Gallery in the first exhibition devoted entirely to the artist's later work.

As a leading figure in the Impressionist movement, Degas is celebrated for his sumptuous pictures of the ballet and richly-coloured pastels of the female nude.

High-quality prints of the three pictures illustrated here are available to readers at a special price of £4.99 each (half the usual price) or three for £12 – a further saving of £3. These three exclusive prints are also available in frames with an antique-gold finish and with museum quality, ivory mounts for £38 each or three for £99, a saving of £15.

The prints on offer here are among the best loved of Degas' later works–

Blue Dancers – elegant, graceful dancers of the corp de ballet in dresses of exquisite blue, arc and stretch their limbs in preparation for their final entrance.

After the Bath, Woman Drying Herself – the artist captures this personal and intimate moment with both movement and colour. She dries her hair with vigour whilst the light enhances sensuous flesh tones.

Red Ballet Skirts – The glamour and excitement of the ballet is captured by the artist with the wondrous use of vibrant orange-red colour in the dancers' dresses.

Left (shown framed): *Blue Dancers*, oil on canvas, circa 1895. (Print size 400 x 500mm).

Top right: *Red Ballet Skirts*, pastel on tracing paper, circa 1897-1902. (Print size 400 x 500mm).

Right: *After the Bath, Woman Drying Herself*, pastel on tracing paper, circa 1890-95. (Print size 380 x 420mm).

The Degas Exhibition is sponsored by

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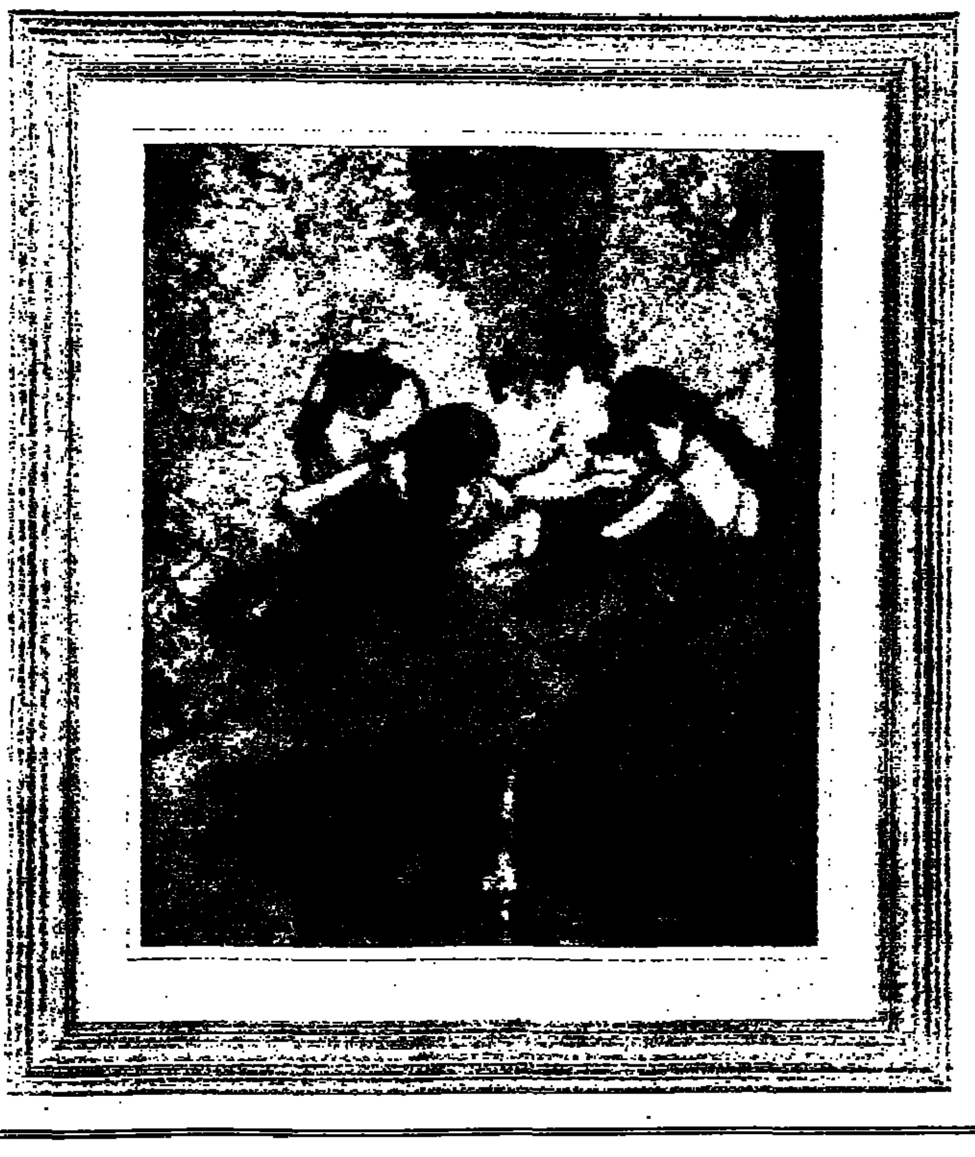
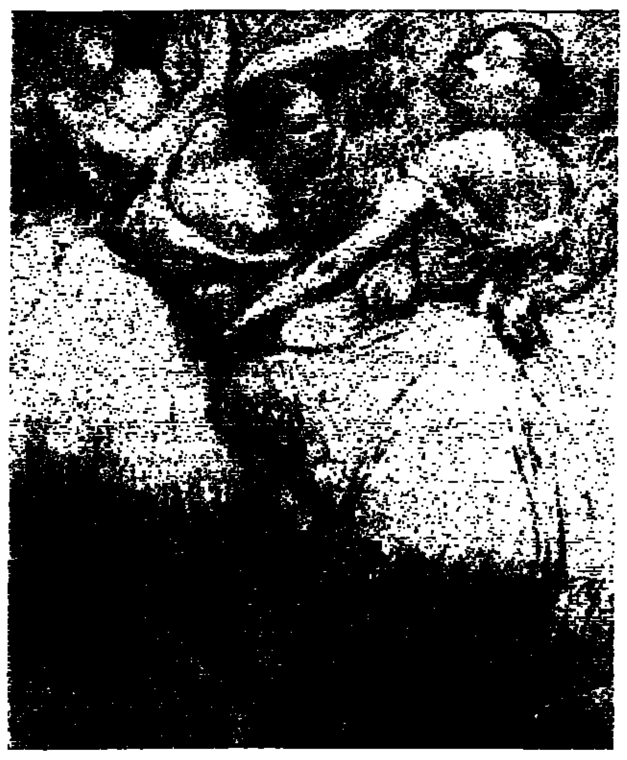
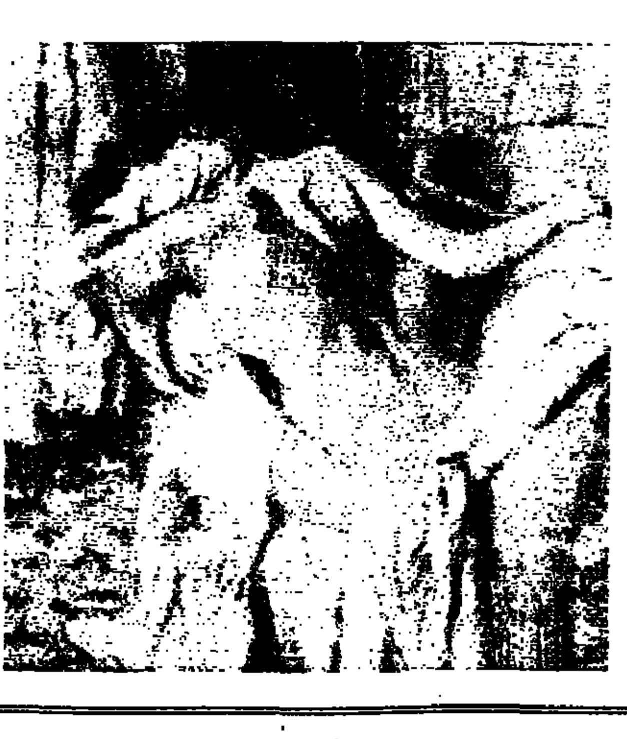
Selected from the current Degas exhibition at the National Gallery, superb prints from just £4.99 each







New Exhibition Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday 10am - 6pm, Sunday 12 - 6pm. Wednesdays until 8pm (last admissions 5.15pm and Wednesdays 7.15pm).

Tickets: Admission £5 (concessions £3), Family Ticket £13, Season Ticket £13 (concessions £7.50).

Advance Booking: Advance tickets are available from First Call, 0171 420 0000 (Booking Fee).

● Late Degas on Wednesday Evenings
£10 includes admission ticket, recorded tour, glass of Buck's Fizz and canapes in the Brasserie. Tickets available from 5pm. (There will be a £2 handling charge if booked through First Call).

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■ OPERA

The productions at this year's edition of the Salzburg Festival may not look great, but they sound wonderful

■ THEATRE

Pictures of Trinidad parties and New York streets are vividly created in *A Small World*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ JAZZ

An intelligently paced set from the veteran American drummer Chico Hamilton belies his 75 years

■ MONDAY

Going to a show in the West End: are the hassles and the expense enough to deter the average theatregoer?

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** has at least one sense satisfied as the Salzburg Festival gets under way

Hard work to watch, but lovely to listen to

Salzburg is still the Jekyll and Hyde of summer festivals. At first sight it looks like the record industry's annual sales conference, with shop windows full of company posters promoting their artists. Seat prices being what they are, audiences are on the stuffy side; it was dispiriting to sit through a *Don Giovanni* in which the jokes in the text were received in total silence — only when Leporello walked into the scenery and temporarily stunned himself was there a rustle of reaction (had his trousers fallen down as well, someone might actually have laughed).

And yet, especially since the arrival of Gerard Mortier (now in his fifth year), Salzburg is serious stuff. Schoenberg is featured this year, with the Boulez-Stein *Moses und Aron* co-production, complete with the Concertgebouw, about to open. There are well-planned concert series not only of "our time" but of "the next generation". Operas, concerts and plays are thematically interlinked, and just about every conductor, director and performer in the top flight is either in attendance, has been or will be.

Klaus Metzger's production of **Oberon** was the umpteenth attempt over the years to tame Weber's unruly swansong, its unruliness the result of the composer's understandable inability to come to terms with English theatrical tastes at the time (1826, Covent Garden). The marriage of music of genius and Planché's frankly pantomime plot is indeed uneasy, but was made no easier by devising a spoken text of hideous roguishness for Oberon and Tytania delivered by the Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray of Austria (but infinitely less talented), while the action was performed by the Salzburg Marionettes and the poor singers sat in front looking, as P.G. Wodehouse put it, far from gruntled.

There is a perfectly easy answer to *Oberon* — perform it as written. This revolutionary solution worked for Purcell's *King Arthur* at Covent Garden last year, and one day it will work for *Oberon*.

At least the musical performance was respectable. The Philharmonia played robustly under Sylvain Cambreling's slightly inflexible direction. Chris Merritt hurled out Huon's endless top Bs with unruffled calm, and Dagmar Peckova made a charming Fatima, albeit in an indecipherable language.

Jane Eaglen's Rezia was sensational — no other word will do. The bronzed, rock-steady beauty of her tone, the breadth of her phrasing, her astonishing agility, all invite comparisons (for older opera-goers) with Frida Leider. The double arpeggio at the end of *Ocean, thou mighty monster* capped some of the most thrilling singing I have heard for months, and her delivery of this astounding *scena* roused the audience to as near frenzy as Salzburg audiences get.

The **Giovanni** was a revival of Patrice Chéreau's curiously subfusc, cool production of 1994. The flat surfaces of Richard Peduzzi's sets, the constant near-darkness punctuated by capricious follow-spots, the anonymity of the characters, all conspire to make it hard to work out what the director is driving at, certainly in the first act. A broadly farcical balcony scene at the start of the second is little help, and the one coup — a giant stone head crushing Giovanni — comes a little late in a dramatically bland evening.

I suspect that it is impossible to play Mozart in the Grosses Festspielhaus. The Vienna Philharmonic produced a great, plush duvet of string-dominated sound, whence too little detail emerged at Donald Runnicles's mostly energetic tempos, and not all the singers projected over it. Ferruccio Furlanetto (Giovanni), Paul Groves (Ottavio) and Vesselina Kasarova (Zerlina) all sang well, but who were they, and why?

We certainly knew who Bryn Terfel's Leporello was — a frighteningly sly, manipulative servant, with a touch of camp that was distinctly queasy, given his second-row-forward build. And Catherine Malfitano's Elvira was a vibrant, vividly intense creature. Without them, this would have been rather a dull evening.

Hildegard Behrens, magnificent as Elektra, and Karen Huffstodt as Chrysothemis in Strauss's opera

At least Lorin Maazel tamed this theatre's acoustics: his **Elektra**, again with the Vienna Philharmonic, was beautifully balanced both internally and externally: you could hear everything both on stage and in the pit. I thought his conducting too detached, too analytical for so steamy a piece, but technically it could not be faulted.

This *Elektra* was given to an entirely Japanese stage team, a nice compliment since Salzburg, not to mention the European classical music industry, would probably not survive without Japanese consumers. In the event direction (Keita Asari) was notable by its absence — people stood and sang — and the decor by Ichiro Takada and Shigeaki Tsuchiya was conventional. The only surprise came at the end, when the set walked away and Elektra turned into Senta, but dropped dead before she could fling herself into the Gulf of Argos.

Undirected, Karen Huffstodt (Chrysothemis), John Bröcheler (Orestes) and Doris Soffel (Clytemnestra), did as best they could, but Hildegard Behrens in the title role single-handedly hoiked the whole evening up to festival standard. Her voice is in amazing trim, and she knows this part forwards, backwards and upside down. She knows when to relax pressure, when to colour lines from the chest, when to float (she still can), when to use words as much as tone. I have never heard her give a more "complete" Elektra.

● ***Richard Morrison is away***

JAZZ CONCERTS

Fine sound of a deferent drum

Chico Hamilton
Rhythmic, NJ

EXPERIENCE shows that contemporary groups led by drummers should be approached with caution. Some percussionists simply cannot resist the temptation to remind everyone who is boss. If you ever heard Billy Cobham in his heyday, you will be familiar with the symptoms.

The West Coast veteran Chico Hamilton is not entirely guiltless — one or two of his long-winded climaxes would have been quite at home in a heavy rock concert. But these were only occasional lapses in an intelligently paced set from a musician who came to prominence 40 years ago with a group that made ambitious use of woodwinds and cello.

Some of the recordings sound contrived and over-arranged today — the West Coast school at its most precious — but Hamilton at least deserves credit for searching for new sonorities and for hiring talent as diverse as Eric Dolphy and Jim Hall.

After a lengthy detour into the less idealistic world of advertising, Hamilton still has an ear for open, uncluttered combinations of instruments. With no keyboard player in his quartet, Euphoria, it fell to guitarist Cary DeNigris to supply an ambiguous tonal centre, augmented by Kip Reed's roving electric bass. The light vibrato and spare phrasing of Eric Person's alto and soprano saxophones added subtle colour to ethereal group improvisations in which Hamilton's delicate use of brushes and mallets played its own free-floating melodic role.

There was hardly a bebop or fusion cliché to be heard all evening. The group lost momentum only when Hamilton pushed the volume level too high or encouraged the musicians to dwell too long over a rudimentary guitar or bass figure. As a final surprise he picked up the microphone to unleash a rickety but acceptable twelve-bar blues lament. Quite a performance from a man who turns 75 next month.

CLIVE DAVIS

Sax addiction

Righteous Reeds
Purcell Room

FOR their inaugural South Bank concert, saxophone experimenters the Righteous Reeds were originally billed to feature the talented multi-instrumentalist David Jean-Baptiste, but he did not appear and was replaced instead by two musicians, Brian Edwards and Jeff Gordon, taking the total saxophone headcount to six, plus the vocals of Julie Dexter and the Robert Mitchell Trio.

There is a danger in this type of band that such arrangements as exist will consist solely of first and last choruses, joined by a sequence of loosely connected solos — a formula that palls quickly.

The opening number by Wayne Shorter augured badly, with the predictable series of solos by each saxophonist in turn, but it soon became clear that the band was just playing itself in and that a lot more thought and planning had gone into the programme as a whole.

Two other features of the group emerged in that introductory piece: the dazzling originality of soprano saxophonist Jason Yarde and the equally impressive drumming of the young Daniel Crosby. Both musicians were to dominate the concert, Yarde with further sparkling solos, both on soprano and alto, as well as two serene ballad compositions, while Crosby (the son of bassist Gary) proved himself an adaptable percussionist who combines a finely judged sense of time and an impressive technique with a visual grace of movement.

Yarde's most impressive composition, *There I Follow*, was a vehicle for the pure-toned alto sax of Edwards, whose playing has affectionate overtones of Johnny Hodges, as well as Charlie Parker.

The ensembles were anchored by the agile baritone of Toni Kofi, but they also took colour from the voice of Dexter who added class and approachability to the band's tribute to John Coltrane in a rousing *My Favourite Things*.

ALYN SHIPTON

With remembered love from Trinidad

THEATRE

A Small World
Southwark Playhouse

An inconveniently placed pillar in the auditorium used to interfere with the sightlines here, defeating even the most ingenious designer's scheme to pretend it was a planned and vital element of the *mise-en-scène*. Vital it was to the building, because without it the floors above would come tumbling down, like old London Bridge a few streets away. But a useful grant has enabled the Southwark Playhouse to replace the pillar with an RSJ, and the auditorium is now a square and unobstructed space, set for this production (designed by Dody Nash) to represent the Bar Tropicale in a seedy quarter of Brooklyn.

In a play that reunites Mustapha Matura with Roland Rees, who directed Matura's early work in the 1970s, Carol, the bar's owner, is first seen kicking a jukebox into action. "That's why the lady is a tramp" presumably serves as a clue to her character, and seems to be borne out by her professionally flirty behaviour when her only customer of the evening comes in.

Despite his crumpled brown three-piece, Herman appears to be a man of affluence and influence, though Gordon Case's performance does not altogether suggest this, shooting a hopeful seducer's line yet constantly fidgeting with the points of his waistcoat as if he had never met one before.

When strangers meet in bars, they almost inevitably turn out to fit somehow into each other's pasts and, after disclosing that both characters come from Trinidad, Matura's play hints at closer connections. Carol may have been the girl in a pink dress, treasured in Herman's memory as his first love; and even if she was not, she is ready to go along with his fantasy, even changing out of her black leather mini into a pink party frock. Improbably, she has this hanging in her closet.

Matura's portrait of Carol is his most striking achievement, and Pat Bowie plays her with a cool containment, always hinting that a game is being played. Her variation of tone is intriguing, and she lingers over a phrase such as "minor irregularities" so that you can hear the hyphens. The discovery that both characters have darker purposes makes Herman's early behaviour as unlikely as that rose-pink frock, kept these 30 years, but the word-pictures of Trinidad parties and the New York streets are vividly created. I wanted to find out what the truth was, right to the end.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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■ DANCE

The genius of *Martha Graham* is celebrated at the Edinburgh Festival by the company she left behind

■ RISING STAR

Jeremy Webb made *his first movie* at the age of 13 in a church basement. Now he's got bigger things in mind

THE TIMES ARTS

■ GOING OUT

From Andrew Davis conducting a revelatory production of Rossini's *Ermione* at Glyndebourne . . .

■ GOING OUT

. . . to Daniel J. Travanti starring in the West End in *The Aspern Papers*, see Weekend pages 12, 13 for the top events

DANCE: **John Percival** on the legacy of Martha Graham, whose company is coming to Edinburgh

She was a sight for new eyes

Some nights there were only about a couple of dozen of us in the theatre; and it was not a small house but the large Saville Theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue — sadly converted, since, into a multiscreen cinema. This was in 1954, and Martha Graham was giving her first London season. The few of us who attended again and again were all profoundly affected, and eventually our excitement won over others, but it took almost a decade.

Looking back, it is amazing that we found the opening programme so difficult to follow. When the Martha Graham Dance Company gives *Errand into the Maze* at the Edinburgh Festival, its imagery of a young woman overcoming her fear of sex (symbolised by the male dancer as Minotaur) is not likely to present many problems for its audience. But of course that is partly because Graham's art has become part of our general experience. The diversity of dance events at Edinburgh this month, or in our regular year-round diet, is owed to Graham and the other pioneers she led, and so are the eyes with which we watch nowadays.

Back in that distant past, we had seen nothing to prepare us for it. Menotti's score was straightforward enough, but the stage picture by the sculptor Isamu Noguchi was like nothing we knew: just two tall wooden uprights forming a V shape in which Graham was trapped, and a long, long cord that was both a labyrinth and a bond. The male dancer's mask and the staff held crucifix-like across his shoulders were puzzling, too, as was his heavy, bounding entrance.

Yet something about Graham's frightened gestures, the fragile tremblings of her legs and her final proud courage convinced us (well, some of us) that we were in the presence of a great artist. We hurried back for more and things began to fall into place.

Even on that first night, although *Night Journey* had many puzzling aspects, we could feel the power of her portrait of Jocasta and Bertram Ross's Oedipus; and between the two mythical psycho dramas came *Diversion of Angels*, where Graham's younger dancers revealed a lyric loveliness to Norman Dello Joio's cheerful score.

Graham herself, we thought, must have been nearly 50, but she did not dance that way. In fact, as we found long after, she was coming up to her sixtieth birthday. Her whole career defied time: she was already 22 when she began to study dancing at the Denishawn School in Los Angeles, and 30 when she gave her first solo recital in New York.

She took life and art the hard way, struggling to find within herself a new way of moving that would express the truth about feelings and about human nature. Without devoted helpers she would never have won through. There were the young women who sacrificed their time, their creature comforts and their husbands or lovers to put their bodies at the disposal of her experiments, and were rewarded by being cast as a chorus to her solo figure. And there was a musician, Louis Horst, who provided the sounding board, the help, bullying, encouragement and editing she needed.

In the early days Graham was dragging mainly tense, twisted dances out of herself, but although her company's Edinburgh programmes concentrate on her first two decades as a creator, some pieces show how prettily she could dance when appropriate. Her role as the Eve-and-Mary figure in *El Penitente* is one such, and there is a grave beauty in the part she made as the Wife in *Appalachian Spring*.

I wish present-day audiences could see these and other works as they were performed by their early cast. Dancers then had a dramatic weight and impact which their successors, even if sometimes more virtuosic, cannot achieve. Luckily there are films to help to keep memory alive.

Graham could be a little high-flown in her ideas (theatre, she insisted, should be a verb, not a noun), but at other times very down-to-earth: "Either the foot is pointed, or it is not". And she never forgot the practicalities of her art, painfully learnt in the days when, for lack of funds, she had to make her own stage costumes. Backstage in New York once, she broke off from talking to me to slap the bottom of one young dancer walking past. "Lift the hem of your skirt as you come down the stair," she instructed. "What right have you to go on stage with it dirty?" Now that is how legendary genius really works.

● *The Martha Graham Dance Company is at the Edinburgh Playhouse (0131-225 5756) from August 18 to 21*

PHILIPPE HALSMAN/MAGNUM

Martha Graham in her New York studio in 1946, with a sculpture by Isamu Noguchi

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

JEREMY WEBB

Age: 29

Luminous career in view: Webb is a film director currently finishing at the National Film and Television School. His short, *Exit*, is told through the eyes of a man who wakes on a warehouse floor after having the living daylights kicked out of him by heavies. He is dragging his body towards the blinding light of an open door. Tense and ethereal with a last-minute twist that turns gritty reality into a spiritual vision.

On the move: Webb, the son of a Baptist preacher, had an itinerant youth, trekking from Kent to Edinburgh to Bristol and across America, schooled with Linguaphone recordings on the road.

His route to the cinema: "I was never the same after we visited Universal Studios," he says. His grandparents had already given him a taste for celluloid. "They were hugely ambitious amateur film-makers," explains Webb. "Shot their travels with an old 8mm, tape-recorded sounds, set it all to music with title cards, maps, animated cars."

First crack: Webb made a horror movie at the age of 13. "It was called *It Came from the Castle*," he pronounces in none-too-sepulchral tones. "It had all my friends in it. We shot it in the church basement. My dad's friend, who worked for a yeast company, got us all this dry ice."

In between: He founded a theatre company in his late teens, was then seduced by decent wages in the mobile-phone business, ran away to manage an Alpine bar and finally returned to his first love, film. He trawled Soho with his CV and served his time as a runner: fetched pizzas for big producers; covered the graveyard shift; and, one Hallowe'en, was greeted by a severed rabbit's head in the office microwave.

Future plans: "I'm developing a film, born out of my experience of corporations, about a bunch of executives who play a board game for real, for their jobs," he says.

On directing: "Ultimately you're directing the talents of those people you're lucky enough to work with, giving them space. If you don't, you're stupid. Your name goes on it at the end."

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Sunday 11 August 9.30pm **Stravinsky** Cantata; Concerto for Piano and Wind; Mass. Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, Andrew Parrott, Teresa Shaw, Neil Jenkins, Wayne Marshall, Taverner Choir. All seats £8

Monday 12 August 7.30pm **Gerhard; Rodrigo; Ravel** Joven Orquesta Nacional de España, Edmon Colomer. All seats sold

Tuesday 13 August 7.30pm **Stravinsky; Knussen; Debussy; Mozart; Sibelius** Philharmonia Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen. All seats sold

Wednesday 14 August 7.30pm **Vaughan Williams** Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis **John Woolrich** Oboe Concerto **Bach orch. Stokowski** Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor **Brahms orch. Schoenberg** Piano Quartet No. 1. BBC Symphony Orchestra, Matthias Bamert, Nicholas Daniel. £18, £12.50, £9, £4

Thursday 15 August 7.00pm **Janáček** Schluck und Jau **Liszt** Piano Concerto No. 1 **Berlioz** Symphonie fantastique. Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Libor Pešek, Artur Pizarro. £9, £4 only

Thursday 15 August 10.00pm **Milhaud** La Création du monde **Falla** Psyché **Colin Matthews** 23 Frames for 4 Players **Gerhard arr. Meirion Bowen** Six Songs from 'L'infantament meravellos de Shahrazada' **Falla** El Corregidor y la molinera. Nash Ensemble, Martyn Brabbins, Rosa Mannion. All seats £8

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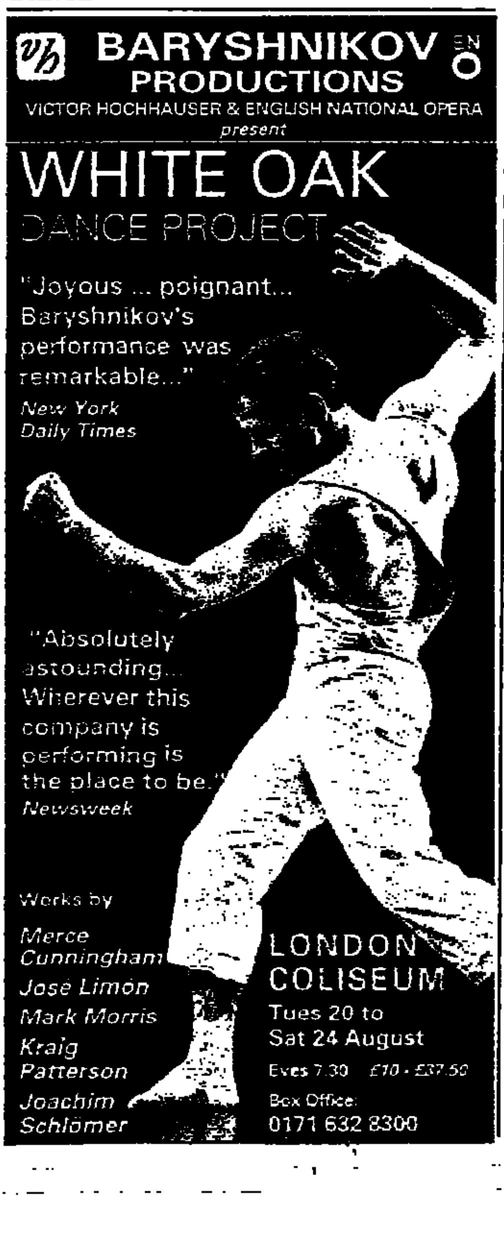

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■ MUSIC

José Bowen's mission is to show conductors that there is nothing wrong with self-expression

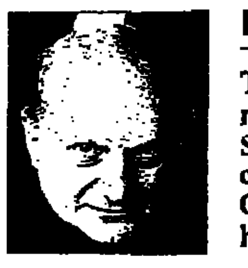
■ BASE NOTES

Daniel Massey is returning to Broadway to star in the West End production of *Taking Sides*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ BASE NOTES

Walt Disney's animated classic *101 Dalmatians* is to be released on video for the first time



■ BASE NOTES

The Thunderbirds meet Captain Scarlet as a conference marks Gerry Anderson's half-century

Manuscripts are not gospel

José Bowen says modern conductors put too little of themselves into their work — and has the records to prove it. **Daniel Rosenthal** reports

NEWS TEAM

"There are as many ways to perform Mozart's 40th as there are to deliver 'To be, or not to be'," says musicologist José Bowen

José Bowen's mission — should conductors and performers choose to accept it — is to persuade orchestras to abandon what he calls the "conservative, hidebound" conventions of modern classical performance.

The Californian jazz pianist-turned-musicologist is fired by an almost evangelical desire to hear conductors taking greater liberties with their interpretation of the great composers. It was this desire which late last year prompted him to set up Southampton University's Centre for the History and Analysis of Recorded Music (Charm), the first academic project in the world dedicated to music on 78s, LPs and CD.

Using computer-assisted comparisons between the thousands of recordings in Charm's archive and his personal collection, Bowen, the centre's director, is determined to illustrate how the range of interpretations has narrowed, creating "a standardised style which reproduces the same performance over and over again".

"Musicology tends to focus exclusively on the score, which never changes. But at Charm we're writing a history of musical interpretation, which changes constantly," says Bowen, who moved from Stanford University to Southampton in 1994. "The other principal aim is to promote the study of music as sound, rather than as pieces of paper.

"Our core resource is the Norman del Mar Collection of 78s — 5,000 of them — which Southampton acquired in 1994. We're also buying dozens of versions of particular works, to create the first archive dedicated to depth instead of breadth."

Reissues of long-deleted titles on CD have enabled Bowen to trace the recorded performance history of many works. "My research shows that, while there is no single movement towards faster or slower tempos, concerts all over the world now sound much more alike than 50 years ago," he says.

To back up this claim, he shows a selection of the charts he has produced using a computer program which, unlike the most experienced critic, is able simultaneously to analyse the tempo fluctuation in hundreds of recordings of the same work, down to individual bars.

On one chart, the duration of the opening 100 bars of nearly 100 recordings of Beethoven's Fifth, conducted by Furtwängler, Toscanini, Abbado and others, is represented by black dots above or below a line, denoting the average duration between 1910 and 1992. As the decades pass, the distance between the fastest and slowest interpretations gradually shrinks.

Bowen says data like this indicate how "diversity has virtually disappeared" from much of the repertoire. "Ideological and technical factors have contributed to a standardised approach: playing exactly what's on the page, pretty fast and with few tempo changes. Conductors treat scores like Holy Writ, but they are more like a recipe. No chef confuses a recipe with food and a good chef knows when to add new ingredients, just as a conductor should impose his personal stamp.

"We're wrong to regard scores as an exact record of the composer's wishes. Mozart and Bach were practical, gigging musicians and made radical changes in performance. They produced particular sounds for particular events, not pieces of paper for publishers."

Bowen's background is as unorthodox as his approach to musicology; few academics can include "Played the Las Vegas Hyatt with Liberace" on their CV. At 15 he satisfied a wish to play Bach by selling his electric bass guitar and amplifiers and buying a harpsichord kit. He became a full-time musician after taking a degree in chemistry and ancient history, and played piano for Stan Getz and Dizzy Gillespie as well as joining Liberace, "the ultimate professional", for twice-nightly concerts in Vegas. "I still love playing jazz," Bowen says. "But by my mid-twenties I wanted to settle down [he is married and has a three-year-old daughter] and thought becoming an academic would be a good way to get off the road."

A masters degree in composition at Stanford — his symphony was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1985 — was followed by a PhD on the relationship between conductors and scores in the 19th century. He now juggles research, teaching, performance and composition.

"My jazz background has a lot to do with wanting classical performers to experiment," he says. "Jazz is all about not just playing what's written down."

Some conductors have dismissed his rallying call by saying "I couldn't get away with what Bruno Walter did", or "They had bad taste in the Forties". But Roger Norrington and John Eliot Gardiner, both conductors admired by Bowen, are sufficiently interested in Charm to have joined leading international musicologists on the editorial board of *Music in Performance*, the journal the centre will launch next year in printed and CD-Rom formats.

"All I'm asking is for performers and musicologists to study what changes every time we play a piece of music," he concludes. "Because there are as many ways to perform Mozart's 40th as there are to deliver 'To be, or not to be'."

Harwood hit for Broadway

RONALD HARWOOD's *Taking Sides* is the latest West End success to be headed for Broadway. The play about the German conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler's possible collaborationist tendencies during the Second World War will bring **Daniel Massey** back to Broadway, where he starred in the musical *She Loves Me* 31 years ago. Performances start on October 4 at New York's Brooks Atkinson Theatre.

● SEPTEMBER 4 will see the first-ever release of Walt Disney's animated classic **101 Dalmatians** on video. The 1961 film has everything from *lovable pups to the outrageous* comic villain Cruella de Vil. Those with a very large abacus might like to attempt to prove (or disprove) Disney's claim to have included 6,469,952 spots in the film.

● WITH shooting not yet complete on his first feature film, an adaptation of the Martin Sherman play *Bent*, the theatre director **Sean Mathias** is already planning his second movie. Mathias has written a screenplay adaptation of Noel Coward's little-known 1952 *Quadrille*, which he hopes to direct next year.

● AFTER five years at Covent Garden as a dancer and choreographer, **Matthew Hart** is leaving the Royal Ballet to join Rambert Dance Company. Hart, 24, wants to spend time dancing in the contemporary repertoire, although he does plan a return to the world of classical ballet eventually. "My career as a dancer is a short one and I want to fulfil my desire to dance while I am still young," Hart said in a statement.

● **Gerry Anderson**'s fifty-year contribution to the British film and television industry is to be celebrated at the Oatlands Park Hotel in Weybridge, Surrey, at a three-day conference later this month.

BASE NOTES

"Fanderson Gold" (Aug. 24-26) will include exhibits of puppets and models from many of Anderson's productions, including *Thunderbirds, Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons, Space: 1999* and his latest offering *Space Precinct*. Cinema screens will also display films, trailers, commercials and behind-the-scenes footage.

● THE **Serpentine Gallery** in London has a novel installation planned for next week in advance of its planned renovations. Entitled *Jamming Gears (from Thursday until* Sept 15), the project by **Richard Wilson** promises to provide a unique experience. He has been given freedom to alter totally the gallery structure by breaking down the fabric of the building, employing techniques and materials used on a building site. The installation is designed to anticipate the forthcoming chaos of the refurbishment process and will incorporate uninhibited, free-form music. If nothing else, the project will ensure that every penny of the Serpentine's £3 million lottery grant will be required to restore the gallery to its former glory.

● A GROUP of artists and intellectuals from **Sarajevo** have unveiled an ambitious plan to create an art gallery in the formerly war-torn city. The plan was first conceived in 1992 as a reaction to the death and destruction of the time. Ten internationally renowned contemporary artists will contribute to displays which will take place in two European cities each year, next year being the turn of Barcelona and Venice. The process will culminate in the year 2000 with the donated works being displayed in the new gallery in Sarajevo. The first exhibition opened recently at the Museo Pecci in Prato, Italy.

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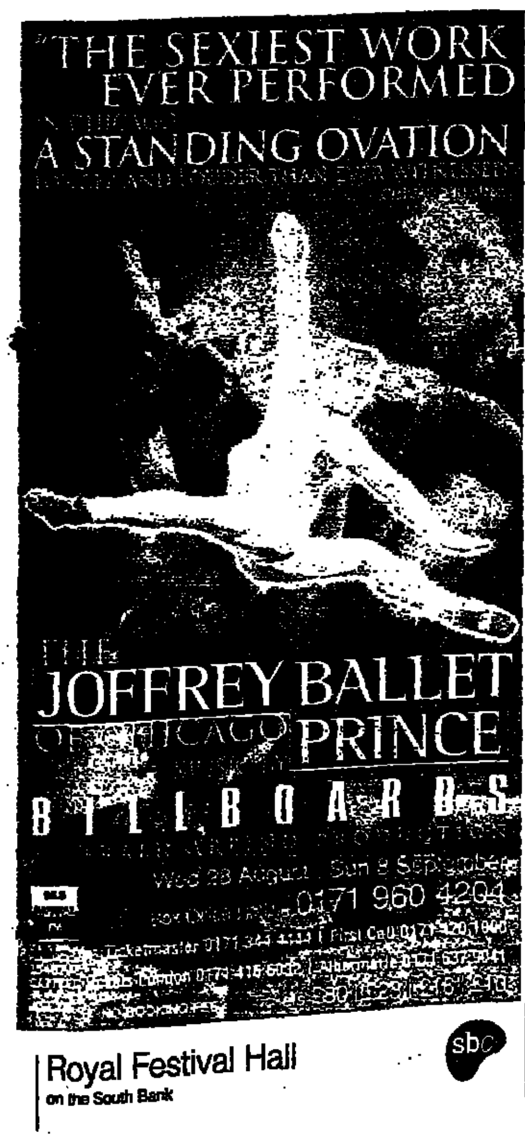

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LIFE IS SUITE
Why fashion victims have shed clothes for furniture
THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Ulster's agony must end

Conor Cruise O'Brien sees hope behind the headlines

This weekend, the occasion of the Apprentice Boys' annual demonstration in Londonderry, is a period of exceptionally high and dangerous tension. On both sides, stronger feelings than usual are aroused. The Roman Catholic side wants revenge for what is perceived as a Protestant victory, the lifting of the ban on a loyalist march through a Catholic enclave at Drumcree last month. Protestants are angry at the recent restriction of their annual march round Londonderry's walls to avoid contact with the Catholic Bogside. On both sides, there is more anger around than is usual, even in the marching season. This is a dangerous weekend.

There are some flickering signs of hope. John Hume worked hard to secure agreement between the Apprentice Boys and the Provo-dominated Bogside Residents' Association (BRA). His efforts failed, but he made it known that he is opposed to nationalist counter-demonstrations planned for this weekend. As I write it is not clear what success his efforts will have. The long Hume-Adams alliance, which survived the end of the IRA ceasefire, requires a group like the BRA to pay a degree of outward respect to Mr Hume. But, as far as groups like the BRA are concerned Mr Hume's star is no longer in the ascendant. The large gains made by Sinn Fein at the expense of the SDLP in this year's assembly elections probably made Mr Hume seem increasingly irrelevant in the eyes of the younger Sinn Fein militants. One possible course for them is to pay token respect to Mr Hume's wishes with regard to Derry City but to stage "spontaneous" outbreaks elsewhere.

They want to make the province appear ungovernable. They do not want Northern Ireland to attain any stable peace within the Union. Mr Hume genuinely does want peace, albeit bought by the slow euthanasia of the Union. His Sinn Fein allies are much more impatient, and the Sinn Fein-SDLP alliance is falling under increasing strain. Inside Northern Ireland Sinn Fein-IRA is increasingly dominant within the nationalist community, while the SDLP is retreating and internally divided. In the Republic, the situation is very different: neither Sinn Fein nor the IRA enjoys much popularity. Mr Hume's standing, by contrast, remains high. In the Republic support for Mr Adams has been, in great degree, a blank cheque drawn on Mr Hume's account. If the Hume-Adams alliance breaks up — as it may do on Mr Hume's imminent retirement — opinion in the Republic is unlikeley to go along with Sinn Fein. Without Mr Hume's influence it will appear increasingly violent and irresponsible in the eyes of persons who had accepted Mr Adams only on the say-so of Mr Hume.

Inside the Republic these tendencies favour John Bruton against Fianna Fail. Mr Bruton inherited "Hume-Adams" and tried to work it. But he clearly never liked it very much, nor did it like him. In the politics of the Republic, "Hume-Adams" has always been more of a Fianna Fail property than a Fine Gael one. But it is a property about which Fianna Fail have been rather cautious since the breakdown of the IRA ceasefire in January. They want to keep the "republican" (pro-IRA) vote but they do not want to frighten off other people, less republican but more numerous. So Bertie Ahern, the Fianna Fail leader, has compromised. He has not himself broken off relations with Sinn Fein because of the end of the IRA ceasefire, but he has not directly condemned the Government for doing so. He has called on the IRA to renew its ceasefire but when it refused to do so he has continued to be photographed with Gerry Adams, sometimes in rather a reverential attitude.

This has worked well for Bertie Ahern up to a point. But, if relations between Mr Hume and the Provisionals in Londonderry continue to be fraught, it may become difficult for Fianna Fail to continue on cordial terms with both Mr Hume and the Provisionals. If so, the pragmatic Mr Ahern will go along with Mr Hume in practice, while calling for nationalist unity.

As far as this weekend is concerned, Mr Bruton has called on his followers not to interfere in Northern Ireland, and it seems that his wishes will be respected. (Labour is sending observers, at least one of whom is very green indeed.) In deciding to stay out, Mr Bruton seems to be acting in concert with Mr Hume.

That there will be some trouble in the city seems virtually certain. How much depends very largely on Sinn Fein. They may try to counteract the potential for violence, since Mr Hume has been a valuable ally in the past and Mr Adams and others will wish to keep him. But that consideration may not weigh very much with some members, bent on forcing the pace. Inside Sinn Fein-IRA, Mr Adams may already be a declining force.

For the future, the main question is whether the IRA will accord a ceasefire in time to allow Sinn Fein to participate in the negotiations at Stormont Castle, before the next American elections. The basis for a deal is there. President Clinton would get "progress for peace in Northern Ireland", Sinn Fein would enter the peace talks without conceding anything on decommissioning of weapons. Their entry, without any such concession, would cause probably all, and certainly most, of the Unionist representatives to withdraw from the negotiations. The entry of Sinn Fein, plus the resignation of the Unionists, would probably precipitate the end of the loyalist ceasefire. This would distract somewhat from Clinton's "progress for peace" but would probably not detract from it decisively, since Americans who are strongly interested in Irish affairs are mostly Catholics and nationalists. More generally, the President would get a lot of credit for making a try for peace in the teeth of reaction from evil men.

However that might be, whatever agreement might be reached in the absence of Unionists, would then have to be the subject of a referendum, in which Unionists would participate. That much has been conceded by John Major, and Tony Blair is likely to stand by that. Whatever has been agreed by the nationalist rump at the all-party talks would almost certainly be rejected by the Unionist majority in a referendum.

So what would happen then? There would certainly be a nationalist demand that the "two sovereign Governments" should then take charge and impose a solution, including, at least, "cross-border institutions with executive power". But if this demand were then firmly rejected by the British Government, I believe the politicians of the Republic would accept that decision and begin to bow out of involvement in the internal affairs of Northern Ireland, now both hazardous and embarrassing. That would not end the Troubles, by any means, but the emphasis would be back where it belongs: on security and the struggle against both private armies. The private armies cannot be beaten until both London and Dublin make common cause against them. The sense of a common cause does not yet exist, in any strength, but events may be bringing it into being.

Tim Hames argues that Tories should tread with care along the trail blazed by Republicans

Lessons from America

Among the thousands gathering in San Diego this weekend for the Republican national convention is a sizeable group of Conservative MPs and party officials. This reflects the intimate links between Conservatives and Republicans fostered during the 1980s by Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher. Many on the British Right have followed the course of Newt Gingrich and the *Contract with America* with special interest, and in the case of some — notably John Redwood — with open admiration.

This keen examination is perfectly natural and goes well beyond Conservatives. In public policy, as in so much of the natural and social sciences, America dominates research and development. As the world's largest stable democracy, the United States is the logical laboratory for political ideas.

Conservatives will be balancing enthusiasm with caution. The Republican agenda seems instinctively attractive. The Dole campaign will stress radical cuts in taxation, a major reduction in the size of government and its spending, a set of measures to strengthen the family, a complete remodelling of welfare provision and an approach to crime that unapologetically stresses the role of punishment.

However, Republicans have been through a turbulent nine months. Rightwingers in the House of Representatives dominated Washington in the spring of 1995. Then their self-confidence got the better of them in the great battle about balancing the American budget last winter. The President clearly won the public relations struggle and Mr Gingrich's approval rating swiftly sank to record lows. It has been a long, hard slog for Congress to restore its standing. That ground has now, largely, been made up but only by adopting a more pragmatic approach to government. Meanwhile, Bob Dole enters this convention still trailing Bill Clinton by up to 20 points in public opinion polls.

There are five factors that Conservatives should recognise from the rollercoaster Republican experience of the past two years. The first lesson is to remember the differences between America and Britain. The vast physical size and population of the US mean that Tories would be better looking at initiatives from the larger states as working models, rather than Washington, DC. This is especially true as much of the Gingrich strategy was drawn from state-level action. The political structure, notably the particular separation of powers in the US, is important. Also crucial is the distinction in political culture, especially attitudes towards wealth and social mobility in economic policy. The American welfare debate is skewed by the fundamental role played by much greater religious practice — the strength of the Protestant work ethic — and the largely black character of the underclass.

The second lesson to learn is the danger of overreach. A parliamentary system such as Britain's does not have the problem of a powerful but deliberative Senate, or a presidential veto, both of which frustrated the Gingrich crusade. But it remains true that hasty political change runs the risk that those supporting it lose control over it. Republicans now wish that they had promised to enact the *Contract* over two years rather than the self-imposed 100-day time-limit.

The third precept is that arguments about ideas have to be won first. Where Republicans have looked strongest, such as reducing domestic discretionary spending by nearly 10 per cent in 1995 and passing far-reaching welfare change this summer, it has been after a decade-long intellectual campaign. The Chicago School of Economy, and notably Milton Friedman in the late 1970s, made a powerful case that large government spending undermined economic progress. Charles Murray's seminal book on the causes of American poverty — *Losing Ground* — was condemned as extreme when published a decade ago, but is now orthodoxy. The power of such thinking percolated down to influence much of the political class, the media, and finally ordinary citizens. British Conservatives should ponder whether they have yet produced their Friedman or Murray and how far they can go without them.

The fourth lesson is more of a question. Are Britons willing to pay the price Americans will accept in altering social policy? The get-tough approach to crime has produced results but means that more than one million people are behind bars, and prison construction is one of the nation's greatest growth industries. The welfare reform just passed basically forces the able-bodied poor back into the workplace. In the medium term it may well succeed. In the short term it will probably lead to an increase in hardship. Conservatives need to compare conditions.

The final lesson is to look at where power lies. Absolutely integral to everything that has happened under the Republican Congress has been a relentless desire to shift government functions away from the federal capital and back to the state. Some of this shift relates to the size of the United States and the belief that the country is too big to be run from Washington. Nonetheless, it also reflects a conviction that the only way government can be smaller and more innovative is if it is provided at a local level. The general drift of Conservative government since 1979 has been in the opposite direction. Tories may have to ask themselves whether they are ready and willing to change tack.

The American agenda is thus a relevant one for British politics. It is certainly more so than any model from continental Europe. But it needs to be approached with some sophistication, not shameless imitation. There will be plenty for the Conservative contingent to think about among the Republican razzmatazz this week.

A maiden aunt on madeira

Magnus Linklater on Edinburgh's mid-life crisis in the Festival's fiftieth year

The early morning shuttle from London is full. A lady from Milan berates a stewardess for failing to provide her with a glass of hot water and lemon. The first-class section is brimming with young men in T-shirts and expensive jeans. Three seats are taken up by a double bass. Of course — this is August, it must be festival time. The annual migration for the cultured classes has begun, and during the next three weeks Edinburgh will cast off its staid and dignified reputation to the winds and, like a maiden aunt with a taste for madeira, behave with embarrassing extravagance.

Fifty years on from the first Edinburgh Festival in 1947, launched as an act of extraordinary faith into the uncertainty of the postwar era, the annual celebration has come of age. As Richard Morrison pointed out in *The Times* this week, it has passed through a troubled period, when talent seeped elsewhere and the city appeared to reject it, into a new era of record audiences and critical acclaim.

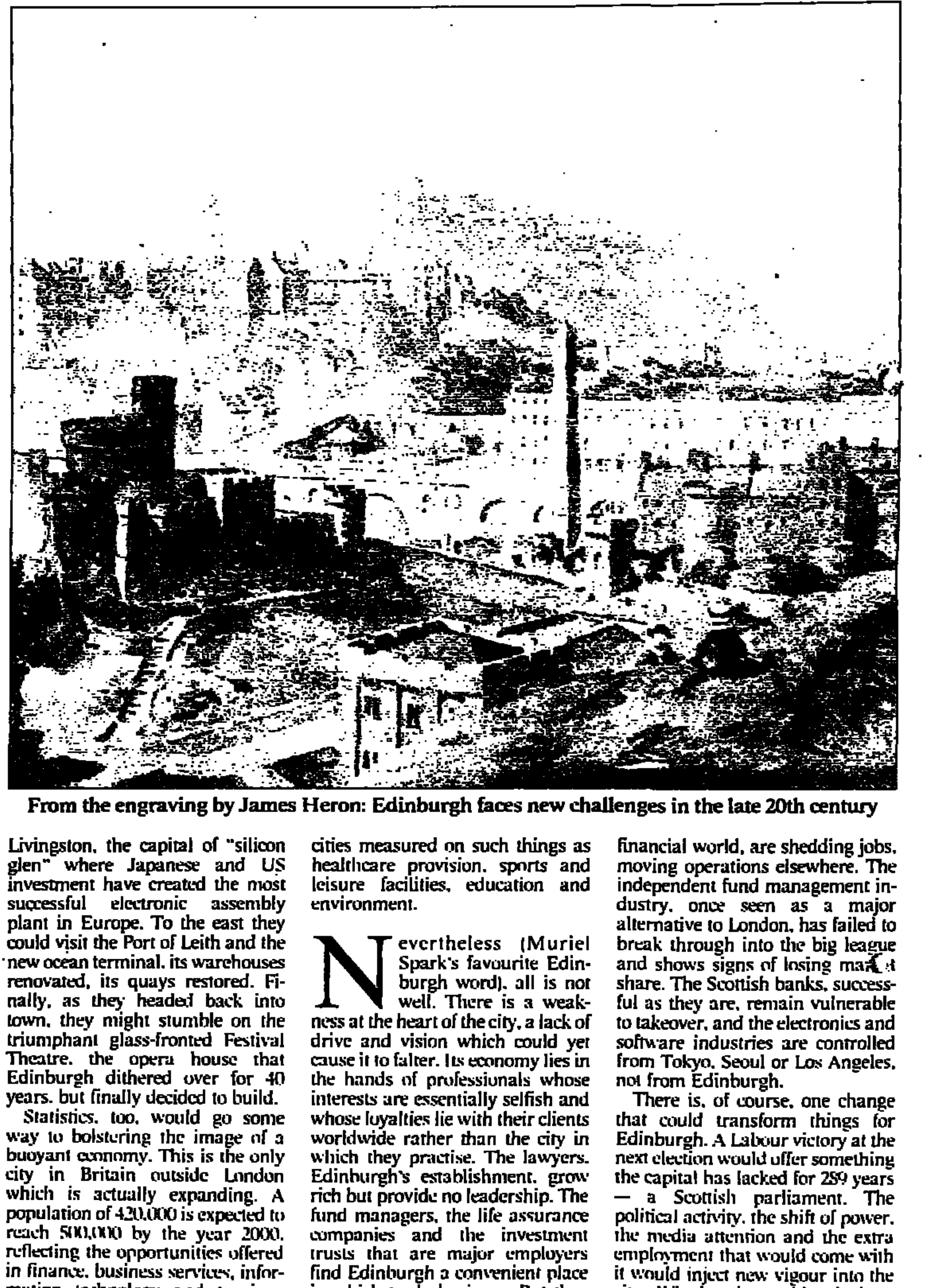
But what of Edinburgh itself? Away from the jugglers on the streets, the black-tie audiences at the Usher Hall, or the second-year students producing *Waiting for Godot*, there are signs that Scotland's capital is going through a mid-life crisis as it heads for the millennium. Can a medium-sized city on the edge of Europe survive on a reputation for fine skylines and grand opera? While places such as Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool have marketed themselves crudely but effectively as modern cities, Edinburgh has acquired a reputation for complacency, sustained by a surfeit of lawyers and a shaky claim as Britain's second financial centre. When the judges for the 1990 City of Architecture came to look at the competing claims of Edinburgh and Glasgow, they stunned the city fathers by preferring Glasgow's get-up-and-go to Edinburgh's assumption that the title was its by right.

Tomorrow, in his 50th anniversary festival lecture in the McEwan Hall, Professor George Steiner will ruffle feathers even more by suggesting that the time has come to reinvent the Festival, to quit while it's ahead, go back to its roots and rediscover the ideals that originally inspired it. His theme could well apply to Edinburgh itself. Is it, he might justifiably ask, time for Edinburgh to prove its worth rather than simply assuming the mantle of power?

To all of which, this haughty and undeniably grand city might reasonably respond: I am what I am, and I have not done badly on it. Architecturally, things have not changed much since Robert Louis Stevenson proclaimed that "no situation could be more commanding for the head city of a kingdom; none better chosen for noble prospects". To any visitor from Prague, Florence, Munich or Barcelona, this is immediately and recognisably a European city, both in its style and its proportions. It has a clear sense of its own character, it is strikingly beautiful, unruined, a harmonious composite of medieval romanticism and classical elegance. The purist might bemoan the crass destruction of Princes Street, or the hideous excrescences of the St James' Centre, and they might raise an eyebrow at the street-narrowing and traffic-tinkering which threaten the spaciousness of those 18th-century boulevards. But they would surely agree with the writer Allan Massie that this is "a place where only the dull of imagination can lose an awareness of the past".

They would also find that Edinburgh has not stood still. Close by the city's West End, they would see the new financial centre, all smoked glass and towering office blocks, with a brand new circular conference centre in its midst, testimony to the confidence of a place well-practised in the business of handling other people's money. Out to the west they would discover what is known as "the second New Town", a development not quite as elegant as James Craig's 18th-century version, but more crudely practical. This is a complex of shops, offices, banks and the modern campus of Heriot-Watt University, an urban sprawl that looks as if it may yet merge westwards with Livingston, the capital of "silicon glen" where Japanese and US investment have created the most successful electronic assembly plant in Europe. To the east they could visit the Port of Leith and the new ocean terminal, its warehouses renovated, its quays restored. Finally, as they headed back into town, they might stumble on the triumphant glass-fronted Festival Theatre, the opera house that Edinburgh dithered over for 40 years, but finally decided to build.

Statistics, too, would go some way to bolstering the image of a buoyant economy. This is the only city in Britain outside London which is actually expanding. A population of 420,000 is expected to reach 500,000 by the year 2000, reflecting the opportunities offered in finance, business services, information technology and tourism. And recent surveys continue to show that Edinburgh ranks high when it comes to "quality of life" — it came top among 38 comparable cities measured on such things as healthcare provision, sports and leisure facilities, education and environment.



MARY EVANS

From the engraving by James Heron: Edinburgh faces new challenges in the late 20th century

Nevertheless (Muriel Spark's favourite Edinburgh word), all is not well. There is a weakness at the heart of the city, a lack of drive and vision which could yet cause it to falter. Its economy lies in the hands of professionals whose interests are essentially selfish and whose loyalties lie with their clients worldwide rather than the city in which they practise. The lawyers, Edinburgh's establishment, grow rich but provide no leadership. The fund managers, the life assurance companies and the investment trusts that are major employers find Edinburgh a convenient place in which to do business. But they would not hesitate to shift out if things changed — and change is constant. The great life societies, once the backbone of the Scottish financial world, are shedding jobs, moving operations elsewhere. The independent fund management industry, once seen as a major alternative to London, has failed to break through into the big league and shows signs of losing market share. The Scottish banks, successful as they are, remain vulnerable to takeover, and the electronics and software industries are controlled from Tokyo, Seoul or Los Angeles, not from Edinburgh.

There is, of course, one change that could transform things for Edinburgh. A Labour victory at the next election would offer something the capital has lacked for 289 years — a Scottish parliament. The political activity, the shift of power, the media attention and the extra employment that would come with it would inject new vigour into the city. Whether it would substitute for the real energy of a vigorous metropolis is another matter.

Simon Jenkins is away.

Going solo

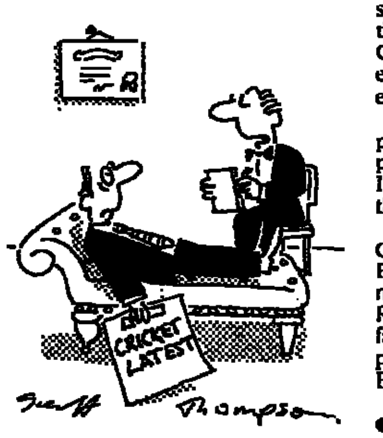
AS THE Royal Yacht *Britannia* cruises from Cowes towards the Western Isles, the Queen is alone on board. For the first time in years, no other member of the Royal Family has joined her for the first leg of the Western Isles cruise, when she sails up to Aberdeen before heading to Balmoral for her summer holiday.

The Duke of Edinburgh will be joining her after the weekend while the Princess Royal and Captain Timothy Laurence will meet her on land. For the first three days, however, the Queen will have just her staff and the dull plash of waves for company.

Since 1956, the Western Isles cruise has been an opportunity for the royals to gather *en famille* and for the Queen and Duke to spend time with their grandchildren. A regular stop is at Scrabster to spend a day with Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother at her home, the Castle of Mey. A couple of official engagements would be dealt with en route.

Picnics, barbecues and impromptu beach games would take place on deserted beaches in the Inner and Outer Hebrides before the family decamped to Balmoral.

Observers of these things see the Queen's solitary voyage from Portsmouth up Britain's coast as a mark of the fragmentation of the Royal Family. Each strand of the family has chosen to holiday independently before trekking up to Balmoral later in August.



Lie back and try not to think of England

THE TIMES DIARY

● *Cruising the Mediterranean at the moment is the Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi. Foraying briefly into a Turkish port with a few swarthy bodyguards, he put the frighteners up the local traders. Following local tradition, the shopkeepers waylaid Gaddafi with cries of "Shalom, Shalom" mistaking him for an Israeli visitor. Gaddafi's guards were not amused, hoiking out their guns and sending the welcoming party scurrying back to their copper pots.*

Call to arms

ARMED Forces Minister Nicholas Soames is well pleased with his role in the BBC's fly-on-the-wall documentary *Defence of the Realm*, except for one embarrassing aspect: his singing. Soames was filmed wailing away at last year's VE-Day anniversary celebrations as Dame Vera Lynn launched — yet again — into the wartime anthem *We'll Meet Again*. Though his chest-heaving looked patriotic, he appeared not to know too many of the words and sounded horribly off-key.

Yesterday he told collegaues: "If I'd known they were going to film me singing, I'd have kept my trap shut." With that he set off to Scotland for the start of the grouse shooting season. The crack of shotguns should drown out any further caterwauls.

Good plot

MONSIGNOR Alfred Gilbey, formerly Roman Catholic chaplain at Cambridge, now permanent resident at the Travellers' Club in Pall Mall, has been busy preparing for eternity. Gilbey, 95, who is said to be engaged in a private duel with the Queen Mother as to who will live longest, recently returned to Fisher House, Cambridge's Catholic chaplaincy. He staked out his funeral plot in the courtyard there in the Sixties, telling modernisers threatening to demolish the building that they would have to do so over his dead body.

During his latest visit he lined up the present Catholic chaplain, Father Allan White, OP, as a candidate to take his funeral. "You, Father, may find yourself responsible for my funeral," said Gilbey. "I don't think so," replied White. "My term here is only six years."

Voting slip

SOMETHING seems to be distracting President Mandela — perhaps all the rumours about an impending third marriage. Meeting the press with his visitor, the New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger, he did not seem all there. A New Zealand journalist asked Mandela whether he had anything to say about the general election that Bolger faces in October.

"What elections?" said Mandela. "Mine," said Bolger, laughing. "Oh I see," said Mandela. "Well I won't interfere in domestic affairs but, of course, Jim is a friend of mine and if the people of Australia decide to elect him I will be very happy indeed." Realising his mistake the President added: "If the people of New Zealand decide to return him to power I will be very happy indeed. But that is a matter for the people of Australia." President Mandela tried a third time: "I mean New Zealand." Thankfully, the talk soon returned to rugby.

Gilbey: going strong

● *For sale: one large seafront house in Kennebunkport, Maine, neighbour, G. Bush. While George Bush was President, the house was owned by the American Secret Service. When Bush retreated to his large spread on the rocky Maine coast for his annual summer holiday, his bodyguards and certain members of the press were billeted next door. For any potential buyers, a word of advice: avoid playing sports with the former President. He is said to be* very *competitive.*

Cashing in

LUNCHES around South Kensington these days are taken up with little more than discussing possible girlfriends for Mogens Tholstrup, jilted boyfriend of Tara Palmer-Tomkinson, friend of the Prince of Wales and Fulham's answer to Simone de Beauvoir. One name that keeps cropping up is another west London fixture, Letitia Cash, the knee-tremblingly beautiful daughter of Bill Cash, MP.

Miss Cash, 24, has everything Tholstrup, a Dane, could want: looks *and* money. There is perhaps one small problem. Miss Cash knows a thing or two about art and is reputed to have a sharp wit on her. Tholstrup's previous belles have rarely been known for either.

Cash: brains too

P·H·S

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THE COST OF SAFETY

Passengers must be protected, but not at any price

The first, inevitable question raised by the Watford train crash is largely irrelevant: was privatisation to blame? Critics have accused Railtrack of cutting corners on safety procedures to cut costs. Leaked internal reports have painted an alarming picture of a management less meticulous in upholding safety standards than in the days of British Rail. Glenda Jackson, Labour transport spokeman, yesterday suggested that the bureaucratic upheaval may have been a contributory factor, and insists that there should be a separate safety inspectorate. This may be a legitimate political response; but the evidence so far is that politics has little to do with this tragedy.

Any loss of life must be taken seriously. Railtrack and the Health and Safety Executive have acted with proper swiftness *in setting up inquiries.* But in the speculation that will precede official findings, two factors should be borne in mind. The first is the *extraordinary overall safety of rail* as a mode of transport. Only 1.58 people were killed for every 50 million passenger journeys in 1991, and last year this tiny figure had itself almost halved to 0.89. Compared with the annual toll of almost 4,000 deaths on the roads, rail has a remarkable record.

The second factor is the response of the industry to accidents over the past decade. Mercifully, casualties at Watford were low: past head-on collision caused many more deaths and injuries. Some of the reasons are happy coincidence: one of the trains was empty, the crash took place within reach of hospitals and emergency centres and the holiday season meant that there were fewer passengers than usual. But other factors are a result of engineering changes, the most important being the use of new class 321 electrical multiple-unit carriages. Lighter than the old slam-door stock, they are built as a shell designed to absorb impact. If older carriages had been involved, deaths and injuries might have been as disastrous as those in the 1988 Clapham disaster.

Better design, however, can never eliminate human error completely. Trains crossing from fast to slow lines will inevitably be switched briefly on to the track of oncoming trains. If a driver runs a red light, no bells or whistles will protect a train from danger once it has crossed the points. Rail operators now do their best to eliminate this possibility, checking the health of drivers and *subjecting them to random drink* and drugs tests. Since the Cowden crash in Kent in 1994 more two-way radio links have also been installed in drivers' cabs.

For the past ten years, however, there have been plans to make the system foolproof by installing automatic train protection (ATP). This would trigger signals and apply the brakes if a train ran through a light. But to install it on all 11,000 miles of Railtrack would cost at least £800 million. Even then it could not guarantee against all other errors, human or computer.

Rail unions have long been pressing for ATP. But is it worth the cost? Neither taxpayers nor passengers are willing to pay such a sum. For far less, much more can be achieved that would enhance rail safety. The first, obvious lesson from Watford is the *urgency of replacing all old rolling stock.* The three leasing companies still have carriages that are more than 30 years old, *and no new stock has been ordered in* Britain for the past two years. Railtrack could accelerate its resignalling programme, and could order a comprehensive upgrading of lines along the model of the extremely successful modernisation of the Chiltern Line. Above all, normal maintenance budgets should be not be cut, nor should safety in any way be compromised. Money is tight on the railways. It should be properly spent.

THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT

Yesterday Russia became a truly democratic state

At the end of a week when the discovery of life on Mars was hailed in Washington as the most "stunning" event in human history, another momentous event took place in Moscow — *one that was almost as miraculous* and a great deal more important to life on Earth. With Boris Yeltsin's inauguration for his second term as President, Russia yesterday acquired its first unquestionably democratic and constitutional Government in a thousand years. Whatever happens in the months and years ahead to Mr Yeltsin, to his Government and to his programme for political and economic reform, yesterday's inauguration will therefore stand as a permanent milestone in mankind's march away from tyranny and arbitrary power.

The first-term President Yeltsin was elected by Russian voters only as a sort of provincial governor in an amorphous political entity that was still ruled by the Soviet Union. The Constitution by which he ruled in the past four years was very different from the one by which he was elected. Mr Yeltsin may have had a better democratic mandate than any other politician, including his arch-rival Mikhail Gorbachev. But until the Russian people had had an opportunity to choose between Mr Yeltsin and an alternative leader — and to do so on the basis of a properly ratified Constitution and a fair, open electoral system — Russia's political arrangements could not be described as fully legitimate and democratic. Even more importantly, it was impossible to assert with complete assurance that Russia's dark record of one thousand years of tyranny had been broken once and for all by the Yeltsin administration. This is a line of criticism that in his second term President Yeltsin will never have to endure.

The most crucial question for Russia now *is whether the additional legitimacy* conferred on Mr Yeltsin and his Government by the new mandate will be sufficient to offset the physical frailty and ill-health that was all too evident during the President's brief appearance at the Kremlin inauguration ceremony yesterday. The tentative answer must be positive.

With the election campaign drawing attention to Mr Yeltsin's personality and his health problems, it has been easy to overlook the growth and development of Russia's government and institutions. While the Russian Constitution is arguably still excessively dependent on the powers of a single individual, significant strides have been made in the past few years in creating a civil society and transforming Russia into a law-governed state with strong institutions.

It was, in fact, this institution-building that gave Mr Yeltsin his electoral trump card. Mr Yeltsin entered the campaign with *the odds running against him.* What won the election against these odds was not just Mr Yeltsin's tireless campaigning and *towering personality — and certainly not his* foreign policy or his grasp of economics. Above all, it was his status as a democrat.

Wisely, the great majority of Russians were not prepared to put their new-found freedoms at risk by voting for a Communist. More than anything else, Mr Yeltsin owed his re-election to the value the Russian people now put on freedom. Whatever now happens to Mr Yeltsin's health, to the Russian economy or to his entourage in the Kremlin, its democratic institutions are growing steadily stronger. Today, as Russia approaches its second millennium as a nation, this unexpected triumph of democracy offers the best possible reason for hope.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Edinburgh and Glasgow should share Olympic glory

The fiercest competition outside the Olympic arena must be the rivalry between Britain's two proudest cities, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Divided by forty miles, Falkirk and historic hatred, Edinburgh has long looked down its nose at Glasgow and it in turn has pitied the pretensions of the capital. But now there is the prospect of the two combining to host the Olympics next century. It is devoutly to be hoped that they succeed.

Mutual antipathy is no bar to Olympic success, as Matthew Pinsent and Steve Redgrave demonstrated. British athletics was seldom stronger than when Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe conducted their sulphurous feud. The creative friction between Glasgow and Edinburgh could make the Olympic flame burn all the brighter. The cities complement each other in the same manner as the iodine tang of an Islay malt is best tempered by cool ice. The combination of Edinburgh's bourgeois propriety and Glasgow's exuberant proletarianism should enhance any event shared by the two.

In the past, each city has benefited from competition. Glasgow has long been envious at Edinburgh's artistic pre-eminence, symbolised by the Festival on which Magnus Linklater writes eloquently opposite. Spurred by a sense of inferiority, to which it would never admit the Dear Green Place metamorphosed into European City of Culture with museums, galleries, theatres and festivals. As with 1745, the arrival of a young pretender on the West Coast forced Edinburgh to assert itself anew. Competition has galvanised both cities, politically as well as culturally.

Scotland's heart has most recently rested on the left, in both geography and ideology. *Labour has been the party of power and the* urban west around Glasgow its heartland. Edinburgh has responded by turning from the Tories and taking up socialism, not so much, perhaps, out of solidarity with the workers but in the hope that Labour may give Scotland a parliament, and in so doing give Edinburgh back its ascendancy.

Competition may have encouraged the cities to new efforts but the time is surely right for both to bury ancient hatreds and recognise that co-operation, although not condominium, would work to the advantage of each. Either might have difficulty hosting the Olympics on its own. Edinburgh may have staged the Commonwealth Games thanks to Robert Maxwell's generosity — a generosity incidentally for which it is still paying — but hosting the Greek games would probably be beyond even the Athens of the North.

The two cities together might be a broad enough stage and there would be merit in seeing the Olympic ideal of sport making friends of rivals operating on a civic scale. After England's hour in the sun this summer, with Euro 96, Scotland deserves its moment. Almost a century after Eric Liddell captured the Olympic spirit his homeland should harbour the Olympic flame.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Spying' in aid of social security

From Ms Nicola Simpson

Sir, Of course benefit fraud must be tackled (leading article, August 6). But is this best done by creating a climate *in which all claimants are treated with* suspicion and are actively deterred from seeking help in claiming benefits for which they are eligible?

Your leading article does not mention that a similar figure to that lost through fraud goes unclaimed every year by people *in need, or that most* claimants are taxpayers and National Insurance contributors at other times in their lives.

The announcement of the benefit-fraud hotline follows hard on the heels of the Government's decision to axe its benefits helpline. Many of the 60,000 people a week who called this helpline will simply not get the information and help they need and, as a result, will go without money which is rightfully theirs.

Local benefits-office staff are not trained in giving advice about the take-up of benefits, nor is this regarded as a priority by local managers. They are increasingly overstretched, and any request for advice is likely to be seen as an unwanted distraction from the main task of meeting the targets they are set for processing claims on time, resulting in sketchy and incomplete information.

Many others will turn to their local Citizens Advice Bureau for help — a voluntary-sector service, already overloaded, with no additional funding to meet this extra demand created by a government decision to save £28 million over five years by axing their helpline. Already benefits-office staff routinely refer to their local CAB people who need help in completing a claim form. In at least one recent case the CAB were asked to do a *home* visit to help an elderly, disabled woman living in an isolated rural area complete her forms.

Yes, by all means get tough on fraud (although we could debate the best methods of doing this), but where *is the evidence of an equal commitment* to ensure that those in genuine need are helped to claim benefits for which they are eligible?

Yours faithfully,
NICOLA SIMPSON
(Director of Policy and Public Affairs),
National Association of Citizens
Advice Bureaux,
Myddelton House,
115-123 Pentonville Road, N1.
August 7.

From Mr Robert Strinati

Sir, Any attempt by government to eliminate social security fraud is clearly *in the interest of the majority, but* actively encouraging citizens to "shop" a neighbour suspected of fiddling is playing a dangerous game.

Community spirit is already at a low ebb in those parts of the country where the "feel-good" factor has yet to *reach, if it ever does. This latest ploy is* more likely to fan the smouldering discontent and resentment.

Yours faithfully,
R. STRINATI,
20 Duffryn Close, Cardiff.
August 7.

From Mr Rupert Reid

*Sir, With the introduction of the Gov*ernment's benefit-fraud hotline, we hear of concerns about snooping and grudge calls, reflecting an apparent public demand for instant, pre-packed justice.

It is important to remember that a *phone call giving information* does not automatically herald a prosecution and that any such information is to be regarded as "raw material" in the investigative process, to be assessed, processed and developed into cases worthy of judicial attention.

Informants as a resource are to be cherished and the new system, if properly handled, could save a great deal of taxpayers' money both directly (through prosecutions) and indirectly (through prevention). All the Government has to do is ensure that the quality of the investigative response is up to the job: for nothing discourages a good informant as much as a shoddy investigation.

Yours faithfully,
RUPERT REID (partner),
EURISC
(Risk management consultants),
Halsbury House, High Street,
Goring on Thames, Oxfordshire.
August 7.

Alien intelligence

From Mr C. J. Casserley

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg, normally so *level-headed, seems to have fallen for* one of the myths of popular science fiction in his article of August 8, "The company of strangers". Writing of possible life elsewhere in space, he suggests that these beings will have very advanced intelligence and may have elected to forgo communication with us because of our present state of barbarism.

Maybe so. However, another explanation *might be that they are all as* thick as a plank, and have difficulty in communicating with each other, let alone with us.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. CASSERLEY,
As from: Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.

Weekend Money letters, page 33

Rantzen Report's treatment of ME and Times doctor

From Mr Hugh Faulkner

Sir, The negative attitude conveyed by the BBC's *The Rantzen Report* and Dr Thomas Stuttaford's report of August 6 (see also report, August 7) *must leave sufferers from myalgic encephalomyelitis* (ME) feeling beleaguered.

On the positive side, there is the well co-ordinated research programme being funded by the Persistent Virus Disease Research Foundation. Two studies are showing results and four more are unravelling the mysteries of this disease. We accept for funding only studies of the highest ethical and scientific standard.

Evidence is accumulating all the time to support the hypothesis of virus implication in the disease. Researchers in one study have found that ME patients do not produce certain chemicals in the muscle in the correct ratio, so the muscles do not produce sufficient energy. This finding has been confirmed by the results in a second study carried out at another university.

Damage to the cell by a virus is being studied in two further research *projects and another is measuring the* reaction of the eye to stimulus in ME patients, depressed patients and healthy controls. Drugs will be assessed by this test.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH FAULKNER
(Honorary Director),
Persistent Virus Disease
Research Foundation,
4 One Tree Lane,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.
August 6.

From Mr John Blundell

Sir, Dr Stuttaford refers to "nearly 75 *per cent of doctors*" *who do not consid*er that ME is a distinct disease with a physical cause (report, August 6). These include my own GP, who says that there is no such thing as ME, and the physician at my local hospital, who refused to even discuss *it with me*

I have been off work and unproductive for nine months, with symptoms similar to those described for ME. If doctors continue to be so dismissive, how can people in my position have any confidence that they are receiving *the correct advice and treatment for* their illness, whether it is ME or not?

Much more open-mindedness among health practitioners is needed.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BLUNDELL,
62 Wisden Road,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

From Mrs Cluny Broadbent

Sir, ME is a controversial complaint. *The Rantzen Report* demonstrated to me that I am not unique in having a sudden and severe illness variously diagnosed by the medical profession as anything from "a clear case of ME" to "no idea".

Dr Stuttaford must appreciate that those suffering from a debilitating illness simply want to recover. In the meantime, they may find it useful to have a name for their condition to offer to employers and relatives.

Yours faithfully,
CLUNY BROADBENT,
26 Bell Hill,
Finedon, Northamptonshire.
August 6.

From Dr Susan Barnes

*Sir, I watched the Esther Rantzen pro*gramme with some trepidation, as I feared there would be more "doctor bashing"; but I was totally unprepared for the vitriolic attitude displayed and felt that Dr Stuttaford should be awarded a medal for his great coolness *and courtesy under fire.*

However, what upset me most, as a GP, was the attitude of many of the participants to depressive illness. As someone who has treated depression over many years, and has also been a *sufferer with post-natal depression. I* felt that the audience were as ignorant and blinkered with regard to depression as they accused the medical profession of being over ME.

Because of this prejudice some may be denying themselves treatment *which may help them to get better.*

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN BARNES,
The Randolph Medical Centre,
Green Lane, Datchet, Berkshire.
August 7.

From Dr W. R. C. Weir

Sir, Our knowledge of ME is steadily increasing, and chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) — another name for that condition — now has an internationally agreed definition. Nonetheless, *The Rantzen Report highlighted the fact* that there is still a divergence of opinion in the medical profession over whether or not ME is a form of depressive illness.

Very good studies of the neurochemistry of people with depression *and people* with ME *now* show that there is indeed a clear distinction between these two groups of patients. Furthermore, other well conducted studies demonstrate that conventional anti-depressant treatment does not benefit ME patients who do not have depressive *features.*

Details of the main studies are contained in the report of the national task force on CFS/ME, formed in 1994 under the chairmanship of Dr D. A. J. Tyrrell, FRS. The report is available from Westcare, 15 Queen Victoria *Road, Redland, Bristol BS6 7PE.*

Yours faithfully,
W. R. C. WEIR
(Consultant physician),
Royal Free and Coppetts
Wood Hospitals,
Coppetts Road, Muswell Hill, N10.

Ethical issues on abortion of a twin

From Dr Maurice Super

Sir, Among this week's coverage of the abortion of a single twin you report (August 7, later editions) Professor Wendy Savage's *comment* that "the whole question of how this got into the public domain is a real ethical problem in itself".

I can sympathise with a view that one does not wish to cause the woman the anguish of all the media coverage and *of seeing the heavy machinery of* the pro-life lobby wheeled out.

Nevertheless, no part of medical practice should be conducted behind closed doors, with the public kept in ignorance of what can go on. A debate, out in the open, is needed for *anything out of the ordinary. The* depth of people's feelings in wishing to have clarity, at least on whether future social terminations for one twin would be legal, needs to be respected.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE SUPER,
Royal Manchester
Children's Hospital,
Department of Clinical Genetics,
Hospital Road,
Pendlebury, Manchester.
August 7.

From the Roman Catholic
Bishop of Brentwood

Sir, As a twin, I find the wider interest and outcry in the present case understandable. The bond between twins is especially close.

As a church leader, I find it *quite* paradoxical. We show concern over one child (a twin) but are prepared to acquiesce *in the abortion of thousands* of others. Surely the sacredness and concern for life should be the same for all.

Perhaps the great lesson we can all learn from this present case is that the answer to unwanted pregnancy is not to abort but to assist the mother in practical ways.

Yours faithfully,
✝THOMAS McMAHON,
Bishop's House,
Stock, Ingatestone, Essex.

From the Headmaster of
Barrow Hills School

Sir, Your report of the endorsement by the BMA for the abortion of a twin *raises many complex issues, particul*arly as it follows the controversy surrounding the IVF programme.

However, perhaps the most chilling comment comes from Vivienne Nathanson (report, August 5), who perceives no difference "between performing an abortion to leave no foetus and reducing a twin to a singleton".

It is surely a disgrace that the head of ethics at the BMA can only analyse the issue in terms of arithmetic.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CONNOLLY,
Headmaster, Barrow Hills School,
Roke Lane, Witley,
Godalming, Surrey.

From Sir Kenneth Corley

Sir, The caption beneath the photograph of a foetus illustrating Libby Purves's article today asks: "When did we start to see this as less than sacrosanct?" I suggest it was when we decided it was a bit of bad luck and not a gift of God.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH CORLEY,
4 Abbey Farm, St Bees, Cumbria.
August 6.

Trade descriptions

From Mr Stephen L. Phillips

Sir, Even if your accountant's view is balanced (letters, July 26; see also letters, July 22, August 3), the VAT-man will still have you over a barrel.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN L. PHILLIPS
(Chairman), Hygicare Ltd,
Whitegate Industrial Estate,
Wrexham, Clwyd.
August 3.

From Mr John Pittuck

Sir, Many painters would find it unpalatable to be drawn into such a silly exchange of witticisms in case their reputation be coloured by the experience. They'd rather avoid this brush with exhibitionism.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PITTUCK,
Hillside Cottage, 62 Dunmow Road,
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.
August 5.

From Mrs Hilary Lowne

Sir, As a speech therapist my views *will speak for themselves.*

Yours faithfully,
HILARY LOWNE,
30 Wright Lane,
Grange Farm, Oadby, Leicester.
August 5.

From Dr Christopher
Gardner-Thorpe

Sir, You would not want your gastroenterologist to take a jaundiced view nor should your optician examine you through rose-tinted glasses, but you *would expect your dentist to make a* good impression. Would you want your dermatologist to make a rash diagnosis?

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER
GARDNER-THORPE,
The Coach House,
1a College Road, Exeter, Devon.
August 4.

From Mr V. H. Black

Sir, As a member of the textile trade, I *have found the fabric of society has be*come so warped since people began to cotton on to the fact that the wool was being pulled over their eyes that only shuttle-diplomacy can save us from the troubles which now loom. Otherwise it's curtains!

Yours faithfully,
V. H. BLACK (Director),
Victor Black Group Ltd,
Lower Farm House,
Coln Rogers, Gloucestershire.
August 3.

From Mr Frank Dunn

Sir, As a book indexer, my views are based on a knowledge of the subject from A to Z.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK DUNN,
Rose Cottage,
Hixet Wood, Charlbury, Oxford.
August 5.

From Mr Michael Jones

Sir, Presumably, I would have to press you for your opinions … and would the views of your photographers have to be expressed *in camera*?

Yours faithfully,
M. JONES,
29-31 Park Road, Toddington,
Nr Dunstable, Bedfordshire.
August 3.

Building in the City

From Mr Derek J. Walker

Sir, Your interesting report (July 29) on the plan to build Europe's highest skyscraper on the site of the Baltic Exchange in the City of London illustrates several weaknesses in present conservation policy.

Unquestionably, the core elements of the original fine Grade II* listed building — its facade and the Baltic trading floor — could easily have been restored after the IRA bombing in 1992.

Now the various parties concerned are disputing the reasons for the ignominious retreat by English Heritage which has, it seems, cleared the way for a massive new building to be erected on the site. This building is planned to provide two million square feet *of office space, according to your re*port. By comparison, the Baltic had been granted planning consent for a derisory 250,000 square feet on the same site.

It appears to me that English Heritage has been feeble in resisting pressure from developers, is confused about its core purpose as a conservator and, in this case, perhaps lax in monitoring the condition of a damaged listed *building.*

In my view a body such as the National Trust could certainly do the job less expensively and probably better.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. WALKER
(Chief Executive & Secretary,
The Baltic Exchange, 1968-92),
Cedar Lodge, Keymer Road,
Burgess Hill, West Sussex.
August 1.

Knocking the capital

From Mr Robert Gordon Clark

Sir, In his article of July 30, "Don't make London the fall-guy", Magnus Linklater refers to an advertisement by the Scottish Tourist Board which derides London's air quality. When you arrive at *Paddington station you* see a sign which says: "You're welcome to London. But for friendlier faces, fascinating places and a better quality of life try Cardiff."

What do these two advertisements have in common, apart from their *cheap shots at London? They are fin*anced by government subsidy.

There is an old adage in the marketing world that you should invest in your brand leader. In tourism and inward-investment terms London is Britain's undisputed brand leader and the gateway for much foreign investment. But here we are, allowing taxpayers' money to be used to knock the capital city in order to relocate business and/or increase tourism away from London to Scotland and Wales.

This is a foolish waste of public money. Our overseas competitors must be rubbing their hands with glee.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT GORDON CLARK
(Director of Communications),
London First,
Caxton House, 6 Tothill Street, SW1.
August 1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

SOCIAL NEWS

Royal engagements

TODAY:
The Queen will arrive at Stranraer at 10 and at Cairnryan Ferry Port at 10.40; will visit Stranraer Academy at 11.00; will visit Agnew Park at 11.35; will visit Dalrymple Hospital at noon; and will attend a luncheon at the John Niven Campus at 12.45.

Appointment

Vanessa Harris, head of finance at the Crafts Council, has been appointed Head of Finance and Administration at the Museums and Galleries Commission from November.

Service dinner

Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force
The Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, the Mayor of Lincoln, the Sheriff of Lincoln and Colonel W.J. Gleadell, who were the principal guests, were received by Colonel R.A. Dickinson, Commmandant of the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force, at the annual dinner held last night at Sir John Moore Barracks, Folkestone. Major G. Scotney presided.

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net before tax):

Muriel Irene Barker, of London SW10 .... £1,594,189

Phyllis Lilian Chalker, of East Sheen, London SW14 ..... £1,073,461

Weekend birthdays

TODAY
Mr John Alldis, conductor, 67; Miss Rosanna Arquette, actress, 37; Sir Frank Bowden, industrialist and landowner, 87; Dame Gillian Brown, diplomat, 73; Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, 63; Sir Lawrence Byford, former HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 71; General Sir George Cooper, 71; Professor Alexander Goehr, composer, 64; Sir Alan Hardcastle, chairman, Lloyds Regulatory Board, 63; Professor A.L. Harris, clinical oncologist, 46; the Earl of Iveagh, 27; Mr Roy Keane, footballer, 25; Mr Leonard Lickorish, former director-general, British Tourist Authority, 75; Lord Lisle, 93; Mrs Barbara Mills, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, 56; Mr Paul Newlove, rugby league player, 25; Miss Kate O'Mara, actress, 57; Mr David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, 63; Lord Stewartby, 61; Mrs Elizabeth Thomas, literary consultant, 77; Mr Barry Unsworth, novelist, 66; Mr Richard Wells, Chief Constable, South Yorkshire, 56.

TOMORROW
Sir Bernard Ashley, honorary life president and non-executive director, Laura Ashley, 70; Sir Richard Barratt, former Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 68; Mr Don Boyd, film director, 48; Sir Geoffrey Cass, former chief executive, Cambridge University Press, 64; Mr D.V. Day, Principal, St John's College, Durham University, 60; Mr Kenneth Eastham, MP, 69; Mr James Eaton, Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Londonderry, 69; Professor J.R.S. Fincham, geneticist, 70; Dr Bob Hepple, Master, Clare College, Cambridge, 62; Professor Alun Hoddinott, composer, 67; Professor Derry Jeffares, Honorary Professor of English Studies, Stirling University, 76; Sir Aaron Klug, OM, PRS, biochemist, 70; Dame Jean Lancaster, former director, WRNS, 87; Mr Raymond Leppard, conductor, 69; Miss Anna Massey, actress, 59; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald, 63; Judge David Pearl, 52; Sir Michael Quinlan, civil servant, 66; Dame Angela Rumbold, MP, 64; the Right Rev J.L. Thompson, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 60; Lord Varley, 64; Mr Tamás Vasary, pianist and conductor, 63.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Sir Charles Napier, soldier, London, 1782; Count Camillo di Cavour, Italian patriot, Turin, 1810; Charles Keene, artist, Hornsey, 1823; J. Scott Lidgett, theologian, London, 1854; Sir Almroth Wright, bacteriologist, Yorkshire, 1861; Laurence Binyon, poet, Lancaster, 1869; Herbert Hoover, 31st American President 1929-33, West Branch, Iowa, 1874; Leo Fender, pioneer of the electric guitar, Anaheim, California, 1909.

DEATHS: Allan Ramsay, artist, Dover, 1784; John Wilson Croker, politician, London, 1857; Sir George Staunton, writer, London, 1859; Otto Lilienthal, pioneer aviator, Berlin, 1896; Oswald Veblin, mathematician, Maine, 1960.

King Charles II laid the foundation stone of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, 1675.

The Smithsonian Institution was established at Washington by a bequest from James Smithson, an English scientist, to foster scientific research, 1846.

Sir Henry Wood's first Promenade Concert was held at the Queen's Hall, London, 1895.

The Japanese fleet defeated the Russians off Port Arthur, 1904.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Thomas Betterton, actor and dramatist, London, 1635; Richard Mead, physician, London, 1673; Joseph Nollekins, sculptor, London, 1737; Rowland Hill, 1st Viscount Hill, general, Hawkstone, Shropshire, 1772; Charlotte Yonge, novelist, Otterbourne, Hampshire, 1823; Marie François Carnot, President of France 1887-94, Limoges, 1837; Christian Eijkman, physician, Nobel laureate 1929, Nijkerk, The Netherlands, 1858; Owen Nares, actor-manager, Maiden Erleigh, Berkshire, 1888; Hugh McDiarmid (Christopher Grieve), poet, Langholme, Dumfries, 1892.

DEATHS: Hans Memling, painter, Bruges, 1494; Johann Tetzel, Dominican preacher, Leipzig, 1519; James Wilson, politician, Calcutta, 1860; John Henry Newman, cardinal, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 1890; Andrew Carnegie, steel industrialist and philanthropist, Lenox, Massachusetts, 1919; Edith Wharton, novelist, Brice-sous-Forêt, 1937; Jackson Pollock, Expressionist painter, East Hampton, New York, 1956.

The Atlantic Charter was signed by Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt, 1941.

Crown Prince Husain of Jordan was named successor to his father King Talal, 1952.

The French colony of Chad became independent, 1960.

Famine ship to sail the Atlantic again

By Audrey Magee, Ireland Correspondent

A WOODEN ship that transported thousands of starving Irish migrants to America in the aftermath of the famine is being rebuilt in Kerry to cross the Atlantic again in 1999.

The three-masted *Jeanie Johnston* is the only famine ship that did not lose a passenger during its 16 voyages from Blennerville in Co Kerry to Quebec, Baltimore and New York during the 1850s. Several hundred other migrant ships lost so many passengers they were dubbed "coffin ships".

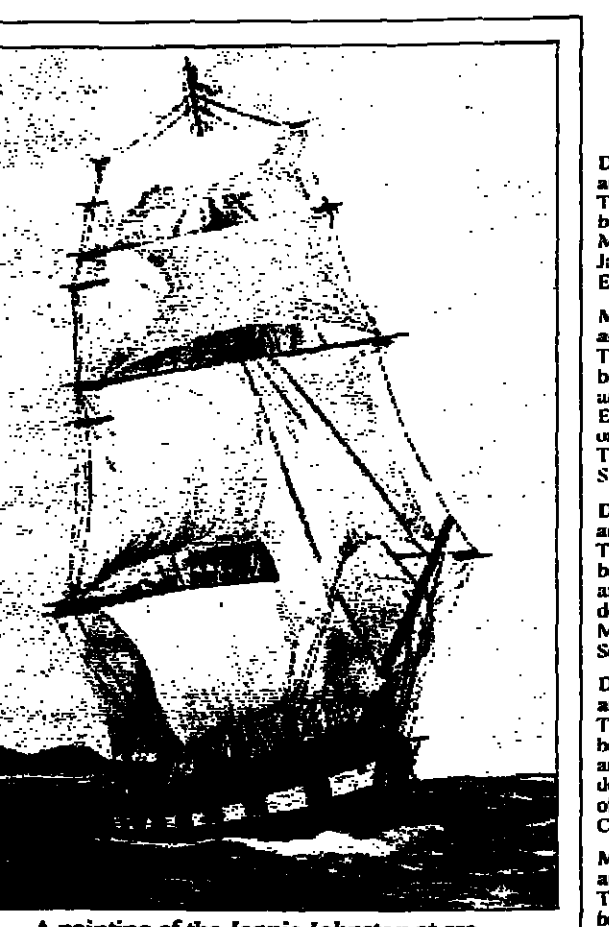
More than a million Irish people died or left their homeland during the Great Famine of 1845-50, since when emigration has become part of Irish life.

Over 3,200 left home on the *Jeanie Johnston*. There was a crew of 17 on the Irish-owned ship, which carried timber from Canada and North America to Ireland on its return trip to Kerry.

John Griffin, secretary of the *Jeanie Johnston* committee, said the ship's owner — Nicholas Donovan of Tralee, Co Kerry — provided better conditions for the passengers than other ships and ensured their safe arrival in the New World. The committee has managed to trace 200 of the original passengers but is still trying to find out what happened to Nicholas Johnston Ryal, a baby boy born on the ship's maiden voyage and named after the ship and its owner.

A replica of the 123ft copper-fastened *Jeanie Johnston* is now being built by shipbuilders from Harland and Woolf in Belfast. The supervising architect is Fred Walker, former chief naval architect at the National Maritime Museum in Grenwich. When completed, the wooden ship will sail to North America and Canada in 1999 to mark the 150th anniversary of the famine. It will return to Ireland the following year and berth as a permanent museum piece in Co Kerry.

Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister who is from Kerry, described the project as "very exciting". The ship will cost £4.5 million to rebuild; £1.5 million will come from the EU, £750,000 from the Irish Government, and £750,000 from Irish-American groups. The remainder will come from individual donations.



A painting of the *Jeanie Johnston* at sea

Three hundred young people from Ireland, Britain, Europe and North America will help to build the boat, using traditional methods.

Organisers hope the shipbuilding in Blennerville will attract similar numbers to the 350,000 who visit the *Cutty Sark* in Greenwich each year.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Christopher Grundy: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Christ Church, Guildford (Guildford).

The Rev Elizabeth Hatchman, Assistant Curate, Saints Peter and Paul, Aston: to be Assistant Curate, St Giles, Rowley Regis (Birmingham).

Canon Peter Heartfield: to be Prior of St John's and St Nicholas Hospitals (Canterbury).

The Rev Julian Henderson, Vicar, Claygate: now *also* Rural Dean of Emly (Guildford).

The Rev Julian Hubbard, Vicar, The Bourne, Farnham: to be *also* Rural Dean of Farnham (Guildford).

The Rev David Hunter, Rector, Bressingham, Fersfield, and North and South Lopham: to be Chaplain and Lecturer in the parish of Wymondham w Spooner Row (Norwich).

The Rev Robert Hurley, Curate, Egg Buckland (Exeter): to be Camberwell Deanery Missioner and Priest-in-charge, All Saints, Camberwell (Southwark).

The Rev David Jasper: now Curate (NSM), Reading St Matthew (Oxford).

The Rev Harold Jones, Assistant Curate, Old Brumby Team Ministry, Scunthorpe: now Team Vicar, All Saints, Scunthorpe, in the Brumby Team Ministry (Lincoln).

The Rev Alison Joyce, Tutor, West Midlands Training Course, Queen's College, Birmingham: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), St Anne, Moseley (Birmingham).

Forthcoming marriages

Dr O.J. Dunmore
and Mrs M.J. Coghlan
The engagement is announced between Owen Dunmore, of Meadow Rise, Darlington, and Jane Coughlan, née Whitfield, of Elton Grove, Darlington.

Mr E.S.W. Godfrey
and Miss C.F. Teichner
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Graham Godfrey, of Epsom, Surrey, and Charlotte, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Teichner of Esher, Surrey.

Dr R.E. Paul
and Dr P.M. Davies
The engagement is announced between Robert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Paul, of Wimbledon, and Polly, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Haydn Davies, of Solihull, West Midlands.

Dr J.R. Paul
and Miss M.S. Welsh
The engagement is announced between James, second son of Mr and Mrs Alan Paul, of Wimbledon, and Merran, elder daughter of the Rev Paul and Mrs Welsh, of Cape Town.

Mr P.E. Rodley
and Miss S.A. Sander-Williams
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs R. Rodley, of Guilsborough, and Stephanie, daughter of Mr David Williams, of East Haddon, and Mrs K. Sander-Tempest, of Weston Favell, Northamptonshire.

Mr C.A. Stewart Cox
and Miss J.L. Donaldson
The engagement is announced between Charles, youngest son of Major General and Mrs Arthur Stewart Cox, of Warminster, Wiltshire, and Jacqueline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs George Donaldson, of Edinburgh.

Mr M. Suminski
and Mlle A. Maurin
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mrs Paul Suminski and the late Mr Paul Suminski, of Milwaukee, and Alicia, daughter of M and Mme Claude Maurin, of Paris, Subligny and Cockley Cley.

Mr R.MacG. Paisley
and Miss M.M. Evans
The engagement is announced between Roger, only son of the late Robert Paisley and of Mrs Paisley, of Barwon Heads, Victoria, Australia, and Michelle, eldest daughter of Mr Richard Evans, of Sharpthorne, Sussex, and Mrs Betsy Evans, of Kings Langley, Hertfordshire.

Mr W.S. Wainman
and Miss Zhang Weimin
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs David Wainman, of Plackett's Hole, Bicknor, Sittingbourne, Kent, and Weimin (Lucy), youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Zhang Guangguo, of Changde City, Hunan Province, China.

Marriages

M O. Ostin
and Miss L.A. Guinness
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 3, at St James the Great, Castle Acre, of M Olav Ostin, only son of the late M Jacques Ostin and of Mme Ene Balder, of Megeve, France, and Miss Lucy Arabella Guinness, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Guinness, of Norfolk and London. The Right Rev Lord Runcie officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Scarlett and Thomas Clarke, Josh Sykes and Katie Rollo. M Christophe Dissaux was best man.

A reception was held at Castle Acre Priory. Mme Balder gave a dance at Castle Acre Priory in the evening.

Mr P.J. Park
and Miss T.C.A. Campbell
The marriage took place at Christ Church, Abingdon, on July 20, between Paul Junhyuk Park, son of Mr and Mrs Young Soo Park, of Esher and Seoul, Korea, and Tabitha Caroline Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Niall Campbell, of Abingdon, Oxon.

Church services tomorrow

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Merbecke, The Provost; 6.30 EP.

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Canterbury Mass (Piccolo), Salvator mundi (Byrd); 3.30 Choral E, Short Service (Gibbons), Dum transisset (Taverner).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Messe Breve (Leo Delibes), Tantum Ergo (Fauré), O mysterium ineffabile (Lallouette), Rev V Cory; 4 Choral E, Chants J Randall J Barnby, A grateful heart, Evening Hymn (Purcell).

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 M; 10.30 Euch, Darke in F, Canon J Hall; 4 Choral E, Evening Hymn (Gardner), Canon A Hindley.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 11 Jazz Festival, Canon G Lee, Rural Dean of Penderi; 3.30 E, Plainsong & Fauxbourdons (Morley), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Darke in F, Tantum ergo (de Severac), Canon J Simpson; 3.30 Choral E, Brewer in D, Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley); Canon J Simpson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Sumsion in F, Sicut cervus (Palestrina), The Precentor; 12.30 9th/12th Queen's Royal Lancers Memorial Service; 3.15 E, Howells in G, The Lord is my shepherd (Stanford); 6.30 Compline, Rev D Naumann.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch; 3 E. 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele (Brahms), Ireland in C, Archdeacon D Turnbull; 3 E, Stanford in B flat, O thou the central orb (Wood).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, The Vice Provost; 11.15 Euch, Rev J Jones; 6 E, Canon P Appleford.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina); 11.30 Choral M, Great Service (Byrd), Canon M Rees; 3.30 Choral E, 2nd Service (Gibbons); 6.30 Evening, Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow), Canon M Rees.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Stanford in C, Beati quorum via (Stanford), Rev K Hobbs; 11 S Euch, Darke in A minor, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Chancellor; 3.30 E, The Great Service (Parry in D), I was glad (Parry).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC 10 M & Sermon, Te Deum (Sanders in Bb), Canon Gordon; 11.15 S Euch, Missa assumpta est Maria (Palestrina), O fons amoris (Forbes), Canon Peirce; 6 E, Joubert in C, My beloved spake (Hadley).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Hodgson; 10 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Expectans expectavi (Wood), Canon R Coppin; 11.15 HC, Darke in E, Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé), The Dean; 3.30 E, Murrill in E, Antiphon (Vaughan Williams).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch; 3.45 E.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in A minor, Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow), The Precentor; 11.15 M, Ireland in F, God be in my head (Rutter), The Treasurer; 3 E, Wood in D, Let all the world (Vaughan Williams); 6.30 Evening, Lord give me faith (Robson), The Sub-Dean.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.12.15 HC; 10.15 Euch, Mass in four parts (Byrd), Canon N Heavisides; 3 E, Blair in B minor, Greater love (Ireland).

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon J Schofield; 9.45 S Euch, Harris in F, Beati quorum via (Stanford), Canon J Schofield; 11.15 M, Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), I heard the voice of Jesus (Shephard), Canon Dr M Palmer; 6.30 E, Sumsion in G, The Lord hath been mindful (Wesley), The Dean.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, The Johannesburg Service (Bertalot), Brother James' Air (arr Jacob), Rev D Hart; 4 EP.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Clucas), Jubilate in F (Ireland), Ave verum corpus (Saint-Saens), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Collegium Regale (Wood), Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Messe en mi (Saint-Martin), Ave verum (Elgar), The Subdean; 11.15 M, Te Deum in C (Britten), O clap your hands (Vaughan Williams); 12.30, 2.30 Baptism; 3.45 E, Stanford in A, The heavens are telling (Haydn), Rev T Cornwell.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon D Hutton; 3 Burma Star Service, Canon N Vincent; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & Litany; 8, 12.15 Holy Euch, The Dean; 9 Parish Euch, Rev Dr J Baldwin; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), The Canon; 3.30 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton); 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, O for a closer walk with God (Stanford), Rev M Tomlinson.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), Jesu dulcis memoria (Shepherd), The Dean; 6.30 EP.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC, Canon P Strange; 9.30 S Euch, Praise my soul, Addington Service (Shephard), Canon P Strange; 6 Choral E.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 8.9.30 Holy Euch; 10.30 M; 6.30 E.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.15 Family C; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Diatonica (Andriessen), Tantum ergo (Bruining-Visser), Canon R Hanmer; 3.30 E, Stainer in B flat, I saw the Lord (Stainer); 6.30 Evening, Canon R Hanmer.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M & Litany; 8.15 HC; 10.30 Euch, Darke in F, Ave verum corpus (Mozart), The Treasurer; 3.30 E, Noble in B minor, Turn back O man (Holst).

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch, Rev D Murfet; 9.30 Parish Euch sung to Missa Brevis (Walton), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Rev D Murfet; 11.30 M, Festival (Britten), Jubilate Deo (Walton), Hear my prayer (Purcell); 12.30 Euch, Rev D Butterworth; 3 Holy Baptism; 6.30 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Greater love (Ireland), Canon M Glanville-Smith.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Short Service (Gibbons), Cantate Domino (Pitoni); 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis Sancti Deo Joannis de Deo (Haydn), Canon B Simmons; 3.15 E, Noble in B minor, Though I speak with the tongues of angels (Bairstow).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon J Osborne; 10 Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Canon J Osborne; 11.30 M, Te Deum in G (Sumsion), Jubilate in E flat (Britten), O clap your hands all ye people (Vaughan Williams), Mrs M Downing; 3 E, Wood in E flat, They that go down to the sea in ships (Sumsion).

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Ven M Paton; 6.30 E & Sermon, Canon J Sinclair.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch, Rev R White; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Laudate Dominum (Lassus), Sing unto the lord (Tye), Exaudi Deus (Lassus), Rev R White; 3 Choral E, Short Service (Gibbons), Arise O Lord (Tomkins), Rev R Royle.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Byrd in four parts, Ave verum (Byrd), Canon M Friggens; 6 E, Wood four double choir, Evening Hymn (Gardiner), Canon A Phillips.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in F, Let my prayer come up into thy presence (Bairstow), Rev M Walker; 11:30 M, Jubilate (Britten in C), Ave verum corpus (Mozart); 3 E, Sumsion in G, Praise to God in the highest (Campbell), Preb D Miller.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Morning Service in C (Boyce), I was glad when they said unto me (Purcell), Canon D Hutt; 11.15 Euch, Stanford in B flat, Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Canon C Semper; 3 E, Gray in F minor, Es ist day Heil uns kommen her (Brahms), Rev H Davies; 5.45 Organ Recital, P Derrett; 6.30 Evening, Canon A Harvey.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 M, Jubilate in C (Britten), Most glorious lord of life (Near), Rev P Morgan; 11.30 Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Tantum ergo (Sitton); 3.30 E, Love bade me welcome (Hurd), Sowerby in D, I was glad (Sowerby), Rev P Barret.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & Litany; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Euch, Right Rev R Milner; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Requests (Caesar), Canon R Warburton; 3.15 E, A Hymn for St Cecilia (Howells).

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Liverpool Service (Rawsthorne), Here O my Lord (Whitlock), Rev E Norman; 11.30 M, Dyson in D; 2 Normandy Veterans' Association; 4 E, Harwood in A flat, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Rev L Stanbridge.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Stanford in B flat, Ave verum corpus (Elgar), The Dean; 3.30 EP.

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid, Y Deon; 9.30 Parish Euch, The Minor Canon; 11.15 Choral M, Short Service (Byrd), Christus factus est (Bruckner), The Canon; 6 Choral E, Short Service (Gibbons), Faire is the heaven (Harris), The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 Low Mass; 11.30 Solemn Mass, Fr P Truner.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 Morning HC, 10 Morning HC, Gloria in Excelsis (Mozart), The Minister; 11.30 Edinburgh International Festival, Festival Te Deum (Britten), The Most Rev R Holloway; 6 St Giles Turbarum Voces, Vocal Ensemble; 8 Evening, Rev H Smith.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Laudate dominum (Palestrina), O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Rev J Bell; 3.15 E, Magnificat Praeter rerum seriem (Lassus), Pater peccavi (Clemens), Rev M Saward; 5.15 Organ Recital.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8,5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Lloyd Webber in E minor, Rev I Davies; 6 E & B, Wood in D, The Vicar.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion; 11 Rev R Tice; 6.30 Communion, Rev Dr J Stott.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa in ille tempore (Monteverdi), If ye love me (Tallis), Pater noster (Stravinsky).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8,12 HC; 11 M, The heavens are telling (Haydn), Right Rev D Bond; 6 E, Right Rev D Bond.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15,6.30 Mr T Fletcher.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC, Rev S Downham; 11 Family, Rev R Thorpe; 5,7.30 Informal, Mr R Cox.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa brevis in B flat (Mozart), Benedixisti Domine (Gabrieli); 12.30, 4.30, 7 Mass; 3.30 V & B, O Domine Jesu Christe (Palestrina).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 Rev J Travell.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev M Meech.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev A Fischer.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Smart in F, Jubilate (Blow in A), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), Rev A Winter; 6.30 Choral Euch, Missa Iste Confessor (Palestrina), Ego sum panis vivus (Palestrina), Rev M Thompson.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Ireland in F, Byrd for five voices, Ave verum corpus (A Hill), Canon B Christianson; 6.30 Choral E, St John's Service (Howells), The Wilderness (Wesley), Canon B Christianson.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral M, Te Deum & Jubilate (Stanford in B flat), Like as the hart (Howells), Rev R Noble.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11,6.30 Rev J MacDonald.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9, 11 Sung Mass, Missa Puisque j'ai perdu (Lassus), Regnavit dominus (Shebbeare), Pater noster (Penalosa).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Short Service (Batten), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev H Valentine; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family, Nun-Danket (Karg-Elert), Rev M Okello; 6.30 HC, Rev D Horn.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, God so loved the world (Gibbons), Rev S Watson; 6.30 E, O Lord the maker of all thing (Mundy), Rev D Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Merbecke, Rev T Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum est regnum (Victoria), O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Rev Dr P Bradshaw.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Rev C Herbert; 11.30 Visitors, Rev B Schunemann; 2.45 Chinese, Rev B Schunemann; 5 Choral E; 6.30 Evening.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Parish Euch, Rev F Gelli; 11.15 Choral M, The Vicar; 6.30 E, Rev F Gelli.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa brevis (Asola), Fr B Scott; 6 Solemn E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Rev S Webster; 5.30 EP.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Mass (Merbecke), Rev P Wells

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8,9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Rev H Rushchmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa Frere Thibault (Lassus), Cibavit Eos (Byrd), Fr W Keyes.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC (1662).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev S Hobbs.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Grant Lord that we may perceive (Pearmain), Sing unto the Lord (Tye), Rev J Gough, Band of the Coldstream Guards; 12 HC.

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Jesus said: 'For me it is meat and drink to do the will of him who sent me until I have finished his work.'
John 4 : 34 (REB)

BIRTHS

CECIL - On 29th June 1996 in Nairobi, to Camilla wife of Lord Michael Cecil, a son, Edward William James.

COLEBATCH - On 5th August, to Lucinda (née Fowler) and Phillip, a daughter, Emma, a sister for Rosanna.

GLENDENING - On August 7th, to Nikki and Nick, a daughter, Natasha India, a beautiful first child.

HAINES - On 4th August, to Suzanna (née Spence) and Jeremy, a beautiful son, Louis Jeremy Guy, a brother for Max.

PARKER - On August 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Ida (née Heidkamp) and Perry, a son, Harry Theodore, a brother for Beaumont.

RODWELL - On 26th July, to Christine (née Velut) and Guy, a son, Charles Jean Hunter.

STOGDON - On August 7th, to Caroline (née Bundy) and Nicholas, a son, Samuel Putnam.

DEATHS

CHILDERS - Robert Alden of Annamoe County Wicklow Ireland. Peacefully in his sleep on August 7th 1996. Widower of Christabel and father of Diana and Hugh. Funeral at 2 pm on Monday August 12th at Derralossary churchyard.

CLARKE - On 7th August 1996 at The Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban, aged 92 years, Ronald Kennedy Clarke, Abbeyfield, Oban, son of the late Rev. F.C.P.C. Clarke, and the late Lilias Clarke (née Kennedy). Funeral Service will take place at St Johns Cathedral, Oban, on Monday 12th August 1996 at 2 pm.

EDMONDS - Pamela Lucy Malpas (née Bratby), widow of The Reverend Canon John Edmonds; formerly Headmistress of Ashford Preparatory School. Funeral on Friday 16th August at 2pm Barham Crematorium, Canterbury. Enquiries to Lyons Funeral Directors, tel: (01227) 463508.

FLEETWOOD - Peacefully after a long illness on August 9th 1996, Kenneth (Ken) Fleetwood MVO, Design Director of Hardy Amies Ltd. and beloved brother of Margaret and uncle of Karen. Sung Requiem Mass at 11am Tuesday 20th August at Brompton Oratory, SW7. All friends welcome. Enquiries and flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, W8, tel: (0171) 937-0757.

HEFFERNAN - Peggy of Emmbrook Court, Earley, Reading, formerly of Sutton, Surrey, passed away peacefully on 7th August 1996 in Woodbury House Nursing Home, Farley Hill, aged 77 years. A dearly loved wife, mother and grandmother who will be very sadly missed.

HERBERT-JONES - On August 8th in Lexington, Kentucky, Margaret (née Veall) aged 77, beloved wife of Hugo and mother of Sarah, Nicholas and Sian. Memorial Service will be held later in Aldeburgh.

LESLIE - Margery Leslie OBE (Mrs P.M. Leslie née Betts) formerly Principal of the Richmond Adult College, wife of Professor R.F. Leslie for 54 years, died at the John Radcliffe Hospital on 6th August 1996. The Funeral Service will be at St Mary's Church, Charlbury, Oxon, on Tuesday 13th August, at 12 noon. Donations please to Nine Acres Recreation Ground Charlbury, c/o A.L. Sole & Son, Bidston Close, Over Norton, Chipping Norton, Oxon. OX7 5PP.

LLOYD - Dorothy E. (née Robertson) of Oxford, peacefully after a short illness at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, on 8th August 1996 aged 90. Widow of Godfrey Lloyd, formerly Vicar of Farndon, Cheshire. Funeral Service at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Summertown, at 2.15pm on Tuesday, 13th August, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to R.N.I.B. c/o A.W. Bruce, 29 Rogers Street, Summertown, OX2 7JS.

MacKENZIE - Patricia Mary on 8th August at Ardeer House, Innellan, Dunoon, late of Church Estate, Sheen Road, Richmond. [illegible]

MEYLER - Stephen on August 6th 1996 after a short illness, beloved husband of Kathleen [illegible]. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Pilgrim's Hospice, Canterbury c/o Brett Funeral Services, 20 High Street, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9EA.

MOTT - Suddenly at Milton Keynes Hospital on August 8th 1996, Sir Nevill Francis CH FRS. Beloved husband, brother, father and grandfather. Further enquiries to Neville Funeral Service, Ampthill, Bedfordshire. Tel: (01525) 406132.

PYEMONT - Wilfrid in Eastbourne on 8th August 1996 aged 94. Husband of Ruth and father of Peter, April, Claire, Angela, Camilla and Christopher. Funeral private.

RAYNER - On August 7th, Major David William Rayner, late XX Lancashire Fusiliers, beloved husband of Barbara, much loved father and grandfather. Funeral 2.30pm Wednesday August 14th St Mary's Douai, Woolhampton. Family flowers only.

SHORT - Clifford Harry died Monday 5th August 1996 aged 95, peacefully at home. Devoted husband of Ruth, beloved father of David and Sarah and adored grandfather of James, Charles, Elizabeth, Robert and Rebecca. Funeral Service on Wednesday 14th August at 3 pm at St Margaret's Church, Newton, Cambridge. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The Bell Fund of St Margaret's Church c/o The Treasurer, [illegible] Newton, Cambridge CB2 5PW.

SNYTER - Carol Anne, beloved wife of Derek, peacefully at home on 8th August.

TRISTRAM - On 7th August peacefully aged 97 Vivian, beloved sister of Uvedale, adored aunt of Sophie and friend of so many. Requiem Mass St George's College Chapel, Weybridge, 11.30 am Friday, 16th August. No flowers by request.

UPRICHARD - William Gervase DFC RAF. Died peacefully on August 6th 1996 aged 83. Much loved husband of his devoted wife Zoe, loved and admired by children Darryl and Denise and grandchildren Tony and Ceci. Service at St John's Parish Church, Hartley Wintney at 3 pm Wednesday 14th August 1996 followed by private burial at St Mary's Church, Hartley Wintney. No flowers please. If wished, donations by cheque to Alzheimers Disease Society, c/o A & W Goddard, Kent Road, Fleet, Hants. GU13 9AH.

WHITTLE - Air Commodore Sir Frank (OM, KBE, CB, Cdr. U.S. Legion of Merit FRS, FEng MA RAF Retd). At his home in Maryland USA on 8th August 1996 aged 89. Peacefully after a long illness. Much loved by his family he will be sorely missed by them and by the galaxy of friends and admirers in many parts of the world. There will be a private cremation followed by a memorial service in Washington. The ashes will be brought to England and arrangements are being made for a memorial service to take place in London at a time and venue to be determined.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CHAPPELL - Dominic Simon James 10th August 1969, kidnapped and killed in Cambodia April 1994.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

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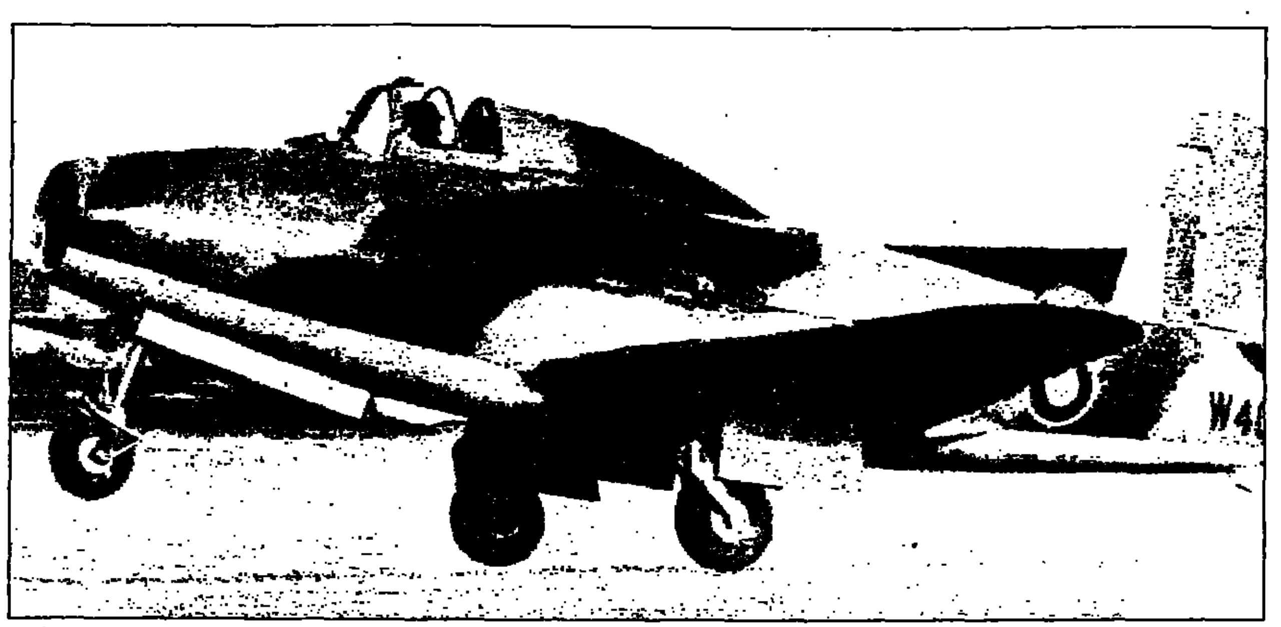
OBITUARIES

AIR COMMODORE SIR FRANK WHITTLE

Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle, OM, KBE, CB, FRS, inventor of the jet engine, died at his home in Columbia, Maryland, on August 8, aged 89. He was born in Coventry on June 1, 1907.



Whittle and his brainchild the Gloster E28/39, Britain's first jet plane, on a proving flight in 1941

Although, thanks to a dilatory Air Ministry, it fell to Germany to fly the world's first jet aircraft in 1939, it was Frank Whittle who had patented the turbojet engine nine years before. But lack of official interest in this revolutionary method of propulsion meant that Whittle and his team of dedicated designers languished for years in the wilderness, and the chance to produce what might have been a war-winning aircraft was lost.

To the end of his life Whittle believed that had the Air Ministry listened to him earlier, the RAF could have had jet fighters in the Battle of Britain. As it was he had to wait until 1937 before he was able to test-run the world's first turbojet aero engine. But even then, official foot-dragging and poor funding let this marvellous opportunity slip. In the end Whittle and his team had to look on while both the Germans (Heinkel He178, August 1939) and the Italians (Caproni-Campini, August 1940) beat the British jet into the air. It was not until May 1941 that the Gloster Whittle made its maiden flight.

Frank Whittle was a man of undoubted genius, and of a typically English form of genius. Like other great inventors before him, he had an individuality and quixotism bordering at times on the eccentric, and it was not unnatural that he did not rise to the highest ranks in the Royal Air Force, in spite of his great devotion to the Service and to the air. Officialdom treated him in a manner ranging from gross clumsiness and insensitivity to wise perspicacity and generosity. His application of the gas turbine to the jet propulsion revolutionised air transport in a remarkably short time, and the Western world eventually acknowledged its debt to him by a profusion of honours and awards.

This remarkable man was born of modest parents in the engineering city of Coventry. His father was of an inventive turn of mind and a sound engineer and his eldest son was quick to take advantage of parental precept and example. At a very early age Frank Whittle had already begun to experiment with making things and very soon his bent lay all towards aircraft. From a council school he earned a scholarship to Leamington College, where he showed no outstanding qualities. At the same time his mechanical interests were being fostered by the practical experience that his father's small factory provided.

The young Whittle was determined to get into the Royal Air Force but financial considerations made it impossible for him to go to the RAF College at Cranwell. Instead he sought admission to the Service by apprenticeship. But here his stature and physique were against him and he failed to meet the medical and physical standards. This would have crushed such ambitions in a less determined boy; authority regarded inability to reach the minimum height as a permanent bar. But Whittle took an intensive course of physical development and put on three inches in height and a similar amount on his chest measurement. By keeping his previous attempt quiet he was accepted for an RAF apprenticeship in September 1923.

The RAF soon realised that it had gained a gifted recruit and from No 4 Apprentices' Wing he was granted a cadetship to the RAF College. Here the priority was to learn to fly. But in this pursuit, as later in his engineering life, his individuality made progress sometimes difficult. Rough handling by an unsympathetic flying instructor caused a temporary loss of confidence and there was a danger that he might not clear the essential hurdle for all cadets, the flying badge. But he was a naturally gifted pilot and his confidence returned. Indeed it flooded back in such measure that he was now marked down as "over-confident". Soon he was selected for the dual crazy flying event at the Hendon Air Display, an event which required the greatest skill and airmanship.

While still at Cranwell he set out his ideas on the way in which aircraft propulsion might develop in a thesis *Future Development in Aircraft Design* which he presented during his fourth term there. In it he considered the higher reaches of the atmosphere where, in the thin air, the piston engine and the propeller would be less efficient and new means of propulsion might give speeds then undreamt of. In July 1928 he passed out at Cranwell with the Abdy-Gerrard-Fellows Memorial Prize and was posted for flying duties with No 111 Squadron. In the following year, while undergoing a flying instructor's course at Wittering, he hit on the idea of using a gas turbine for jet propulsion.

A fellow officer on the course encouraged him to propound his theories. But much of what he said was dismissed as over-optimistic by the Air Ministry. Nevertheless, a provisional specification embodying the principles that led to the first gas turbine jet engine was filed at the Patent Office on January 16, 1930. Whittle was then 22.

No official interest was shown in the invention, and subsequent attempts to interest industry in the project were equally ignored. At that time the only use that could be envisaged for the gas turbine was to drive a shaft, and hence a propeller. Meanwhile Whittle's RAF superiors felt that his career as an inventor was detracting from his professional duties, and he was sent to be first a flying instructor and then to test seaplanes at Felixstowe.

There he had several brushes with death. On one occasion as he was being catapulted from a warship in a floatplane, his observer, Flight Lieutenant F. Kirk, was flung out of the rear cockpit and fell across the tail-plane. Kirk managed to get himself astride the fuselage with his back to the fin while Whittle struggled to keep the aircraft's nose down and stop it from stalling. Kirk kept his head and clung grimly on while Whittle skilfully battled to trim the aircraft, and eventually brought it down on the sea near a German ship. In the event, apart from the bruising sustained by Kirk, neither he nor Whittle was any the worse for this alarming experience.

In spite of these distractions Whittle's interest in engineering never wavered. Nor did his inventive energies, and on the strong recommendation from his commanding officer he was sent on a course at the RAF School of Aeronautical Engineering at Henlow.

In this much more appropriate atmosphere his remarkable gifts flowered and when he finished the Air Ministry arranged for him to go to Peterhouse, Cambridge, in 1934. There he took first-class honours in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos in 1936 and stayed on for a postgraduate course.

At Cambridge in May 1935 an old RAF friend of Cranwell days, Dudley Williams (later MP for Exeter), renewed his interest in Whittle's plans for a jet aircraft. With J. C. Tinling they founded Power Jets and the first steps towards the jet engine were taken at the works of the British Thomson-Houston company at Rugby. Whittle was transferred to the Special Duty List of the RAF to allow him secondment to this work.

Meanwhile, astonishingly, his patent for the jet engine had not been safeguarded by a security classification, and in 1932 it was published to the world. And when after a lapse of five years the patent came up for renewal, Whittle was so beset with domestic financial commitments that he debated whether he could afford the £5 to renew it.

Nevertheless, with finance its three directors raised from a merchant bank and with scant official encouragement, the tests went on at Rugby in ramshackle surroundings with the project often having to work with reclaimed scrap metal. (By contrast, Whittle's German rival Hans von Ohain was getting from the aircraft manufacturer Heinkel all the resources and support he needed.) Nevertheless, on April 12, 1937, the first run of a gas turbine jet engine under control was successfully accomplished. But successful though the test was, it still failed to secure the adoption of the jet engine by the Air Ministry, which was by then absorbed by its efforts to bring the RAF up to strength in the conventional aircraft then available, in the face of the threat from the Luftwaffe.

But Sir Henry Tizard, chairman of the Aeronautical Research Committee, had recognised the possibilities of this new power plant for aircraft. In June 1939 the Air Ministry decided to test-fly one of the engines and instructed the Gloster aircraft company to build an experimental aeroplane. By the following year the research and development side of the Air Ministry was convinced, somewhat belatedly, that it had before it a potentially war-winning device.

In the evening of May 15, 1941, the Gloster Whittle E28/39 first flew, aptly enough from the airfield at Cranwell. But even after this initial success, progress in the development stage was halting. Whittle's reserves of patience and resource were heavily strained and he struggled with inadequate financial means and with the inexperience of British firms in the machining of parts for the revolutionary new technology required.

It was not until 1944 that the operational offshoot of the Gloster Whittle, the twin-jet Meteor, was able to make its appearance. By that time the Luftwaffe already had its jet-powered Me262 in the air and in combat (although the Germans, too, had dithered and squandered the lead they had previously been handed by the British Air Ministry, coupled with the fact that Hitler later ordered that the new jet was not to be used as a fighter, in spite of its proven massive superiority over anything else in the air). The Meteor did not see air-to-air combat during the war but on August 4, 1944, it achieved its first "kill" — a V1 flying bomb off the south-east coast of England.

By that time Whittle had begun to experience the bitterness arising from the Government's handling of Power Jets. The firm was turned over to state ownership and told to make no more jet engines (the Meteor was powered by Rolls-Royce engines). What rankled most with Whittle was his feeling that those who had been associated with him were being dispossessed of their rights. He himself had already surrendered his assets to the Ministry of Aircraft Production. From 1944 the Government was to share British jet engine technology with the Americans, permitting them to develop the Lockheed Shooting Star and after 1945, with extraordinary naivety, the incoming Labour administration gave a Rolls-Royce jet engine to the Soviet Union, which as a result was swiftly able to produce the superb jet fighter the MiG15.

In January 1946 Whittle resigned from Power Jets and went to the Ministry of Supply as a technical adviser on engine design and production. But he was not happy in the restricting atmosphere of a ministry and his health was showing signs of wear and tear. In 1948 he retired from the RAF on the ground of ill-health. He had been appointed CBE in 1944 and CB in 1947 but had never reached beyond the rank of temporary air commodore. It appeared possible at one time that he would even leave without a knighthood — no air commodore had ever before received the accolade — but this was put right in the Birthday Honours of that year, shortly before his retirement. He had also been awarded in June £100,000 by the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors, although he himself put forward no claim. He had been made a Commander of the US Legion of Merit in 1946.

Between 1961 and 1970 Whittle worked as a consultant to Bristol Siddeley Engines and Rolls-Royce on the successful development of a turbo-drill for deep sea oil and mineral exploration. Based on some of his earlier turbo-engine patents, the so called "dog-leg" drill enabled its operators to turn corners when sinking bore holes, a manoeuvre which until then had been a frequent cause of breakdown. At 80 he was working on his own Super Concorde designs — aimed at supersonic flights to Hong Kong in three and a half hours.

His first marriage, to Dorothy May Lee, was dissolved in 1976, but he married again the same year and settled in the United States with his American bride, Hazel. From there he frequently visited this country, often to receive another basket of honours. These continued to be showered upon him, culminating in the Order of Merit in 1986. Graham Greene was admitted to the order at the same time.

In 1988 he was at the Farnborough Air Show unveiling the latest Rolls-Royce RB211-524L engine. Capable of developing up to 72,000lb of thrust it was 72 times more powerful than his original brainchild. One of the main halls in the new Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London was named after him. Universities queued up to confer honorary degrees. Among the prizes he won overseas was the 1965 Goddard award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1947.

Abundant recognition in the second half of his life must have helped him to forget the lack of it during the first half, when he and his engineering disciples were struggling to interest the aeronautical establishment in his ideas. He always denied any bitterness, acknowledging instead his debt to the RAF for his education and the opportunity it had provided him. But he regretted that the other members of his Power Jets team had not been better rewarded by the Government.

He is survived by his second wife Hazel and by the two sons of his first marriage.

KENNETH FLEETWOOD

Kenneth Fleetwood, MVO, fashion designer and royal dressmaker, died yesterday of a respiratory illness aged 65. He was born on November 11, 1930.

KENNETH FLEETWOOD, the design director at Hardy Amies, was long considered to be the crown prince of British couture. Sir Hardy Amies announced more than a decade ago that eventually his couture house — and the care of its most famous customer, the Queen — would be handed over in seamless succession to the younger man who had headed his design studio for more than twenty years. With the death of Fleetwood, Amies has lost not just his appointed successor and trusted design partner, but the man he always referred to as his "dearest friend".

The Queen was a customer at Hardy Amies since 1951 when, as Princess Elizabeth, she ordered a slate blue cloqué silk outfit for her first state visit to Canada. By the time Ken Fleetwood joined the house two years later as an apprentice couturier the Queen was already a regular customer. Although he had worked on the Queen's wardrobe unofficially for four decades, sketching designs for her approval and attending Buckingham Palace with Amies and Miss Lilian, the Queen's fitter, it was only in 1989, on Amies's 80th birthday, that his role as royal couturier was finally formalised.

Fleetwood had a distinctive taste for understatement and a talent for precision tailoring. Over the years, he took credit for putting the Queen into sharper colours instead of the "royal" pastels she had previously favoured. He also supplied a crisper, more modern, cut than the elaborate designs that had been created for her by the late Sir Norman Hartnell. During the power-dressed Eighties, he even persuaded the Queen into shoulder pads. In 1989 he officially took on responsibility for the Queen's clothes, and was rewarded by the Queen by being appointed MVO in the New Year's Honours List this year.

Not many designers in the egotistical fashion industry would readily accept a backroom role, as Ken Fleetwood did, to a celebrity designer such as Amies, whose name was not only displayed over the door of the fashion house but stitched into everything he designed. Fleetwood, however, had no reservations about the arrangement. "I have all the opportunities here I could hope for," he said. His apparent reluctance to step into the limelight and his natural diffidence with interviewers hid a puckish wit. It was a sense of humour that he shared with his boss and which defused any pomposity that might hover over a couture house. Amies's generosity in acknowledging Fleetwood's contribution also played a part in his professional contentment. So, too, did Fleetwood's genuine love of haute couture. For him, the pleasure lay in practising his craft and perfecting the technical skills essential to the job. He also enjoyed the social aspects of his trade, meeting customers, and flattering them with well-cut, impeccably finished clothes.

Kenneth Fleetwood was born in Wigan and educated at Wigan Grammar School. "I was left behind in a fitting room as a baby by my mother," was the fantasy version of events which he liked to tell, if pressed to discuss his entrée into the world of couture.

The facts were more prosaic. His early ambitions to be a stage and costume designer had brought him to St Martin's School of Art in London in 1948 to do a fine arts course. While at college he designed scenery for the Ballet Rambert workshop. But it was a job placement from St Martin's, "pin-picking" for Hardy Amies (the traditional task of every apprentice couturier), that determined his career. On graduating from art college he was offered an appointment as sketcher and designer at the fast-flourishing couture house which had been established by Hardy Amies in 1945. It occupied the same Savile Row house then as it does today. After an enforced interruption for National Service (with the Royal Signals) Fleetwood happily rejoined Hardy Amies in 1953, and remained there.

With the growing importance of Amies's international menswear business in the mid-1970s, Fleetwood took over responsibility for designing the women's couture collections and ready-to-wear for this country and Japan.

He dismissed any suggestion that he was a frustrated theatre designer with a sweep of his arms around the elegant dove grey 18th-century salon. On the rails were hung his latest collection of understated tailoring and impeccably cut satin faille evening dresses. "This is my stage. As you can see I am not a designer manqué," he said.

He returned to St Martin's School of Art as a visiting lecturer in the early 1970s. Generations of graduates remember him as an inspirational, entertaining tutor. He was an intensely private man, remaining a bachelor and living alone. But he spent most weekends at Amies's Oxfordshire house. A talented artist, he had always threatened to return to Wigan in his retirement to paint.

Kenneth Fleetwood with a model in 1991

ON THIS DAY

August 10, 1888

The first named victim of Jack the Ripper was Mary Ann Nichols on August 31, 1888, but the venue and the atrocious mutilation described here suggest that this was an earlier case.

THE MURDER IN WHITECHAPEL.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. G. Collier, Deputy Coroner for the South-Eastern Division of Middlesex, opened an inquiry at the Working Lads' Institute, Whitechapel-road, respecting the death of the woman who was found on Tuesday last, with 39 stabs on her body, at George-yard-buildings, Whitechapel . . .

Alfred George Crow, cabdriver, 35, George-yard-buildings, deposed that he got home at half-past 3 on Tuesday morning. As he was passing the first-floor landing he saw a body lying on the ground. He took no notice, as he was accustomed to seeing people lying about there. He did not then know whether the person was alive or dead. He got up at half-past 9, and when he went down the staircase the body was not there. Witness heard no noise while he was in bed.

John S. Reeves, of 37, George-yard-buildings, a waterside labourer, said that on Tuesday morning he left home at a quarter to 5 to seek for work. When he reached the first-floor landing he found the deceased lying on her back in a pool of blood. He was frightened, and did not examine her, but at once gave information to the police. He did not know the deceased. The deceased's clothes were disarranged, as though she had had a struggle with some one. Witness saw no footmarks on the staircase, nor did he find a knife or other weapon. . .

Police-constable Thomas Barrett, 226 H, said that the last witness called his attention to the body of the deceased. He sent for a doctor, who pronounced life extinct.

Dr. T. R. Killeen, of 68, Brick-lane, said that he was called to the deceased, and found her dead. She had 39 stabs on the body. She had been dead some three hours. Her age was about 36, and the body was very well nourished. Witness had since made a *post-mortem* examination of the body. The left lung was penetrated in five places, and the right lung was penetrated in two places. The heart, which was rather fatty, was penetrated in one place, and that would be sufficient to cause death. The liver was healthy, but was penetrated in five places, and the spleen was penetrated in two places, and the stomach, which was perfectly healthy, was penetrated in six places. The witness did not think all the wounds were inflicted with the same instrument. The wounds generally might have been inflicted by a knife, but such an instrument could not have inflicted one of the wounds, which went through the chest-bone. His opinion was that one of the wounds was inflicted by some kind of dagger, and that all of them were caused during life.

The CORONER said he was in hopes that the body would be identified, but three women had identified it under three different names. He therefore proposed to leave that question open until the next occasion. The case would be left in the hands of Detective-Inspector Reid, who would endeavour to discover the perpetrator of this dreadful murder. It was one of the most dreadful murders any one could imagine. The man must have been a perfect savage to inflict such a number of wounds on a defenceless woman in such a way. The inquiry would be adjourned for a fortnight.

PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DESIRE to locate British Gentleman who flew Continental Flight 5 on 5/25/96 from Gatwick to Houston to El Paso, Tx. "Mystery Man" possible journalist approx 6'4", 240 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, full beard. Please send photo and Reply to Box No 7964

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BERKLEY, BETTY of 4B Tradescant House, Frampton Park Road, London E9 died on 12th March 1996 particulars to Dowse & Co solicitors of 229/235 Camden High Street, London NW1 7BU before 11th October 1996.

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TRUSTEE ACTS

FIELD, PHILIP ALEXANDER GORDON (SANDY) of PO Box 159, Nanyuki, Kenya died on 14th June 1996 particulars to Dawson & Co Solicitors of 2 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RZ (Ref: EM/EAC/1647) before 11th October 1996.

HAGERTY, PATRICK JOHN of 74 Lamberhurst Road, London SE27 died on 20th March 1989 particulars to Amphlett Lissimore Solicitors of 29 Westow Street, London SE19 3RW before 11th October 1996.

MAHONEY, REGINALD ROBERT of 5 Loanda Close, London E8 died on 28th December 1995 particulars to Dowse & Co Solicitors of 229/235 Camden High Street, London NW1 7BU before 11th October 1996.

MCCORMICK HUGH Flat 4, Swinton Court, Swinton, Manchester died 7th November 1995; particulars to Executor C. Parkinson 51 Douglas Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2SR before 9th October 1996.

PAYNE, SUZANNAH MARIA of 41 Transport Squadron Royal Logistics Corps Worthy Down Winchester died on 29th October 1995; particulars to Howard & Over Solicitors of 229 Albert Road, Devonport, Plymouth PL2 1AH before 11th October 1996

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THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

NEWS

Fraud hotline to trap cheating firms

■ A new hotline for people who want to expose dishonest employers is to be launched by the Government next week after the success of the shop-a-cheat service, which attracted 12,500 calls in the first week.

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, has ordered his officials to have the service up and running by the end of the month .... **Page 1**

Knebworth braced for Oasis invasion

■ A two-day pop concert billed as Britain's biggest by a single band gets under way today when Oasis play to an expected 250,000 people at Knebworth, Hertfordshire. Gates to the grounds of the 15th century stately home open at midday **Page 1**

Hunt for missing men

South African police were searching Johannesburg for three men, believed to be British, who were allegedly abducted by armed gunmen in their vehicle .... **Page 1**

Beach offensive

Armed with sticks of rock and hats, John Prescott, the deputy Labour leader, took the fight for votes to the beaches .... **Page 2**

Family's escape

A family from Chester described their escape from death at the Virgen de las Nieves campsite in the Spanish Pyrenees .... **Page 3**

Olympian effort

Glasgow and Edinburgh are preparing a joint bid to bring the Olympics to Scotland .... **Page 4**

Player's 'own goal'

The clean image of football's good old days was tarnished with a confession by Len Shackleton that he took what would now be called a "bung" .... **Page 5**

Train crash theory

The Watford train collision, which left one dead and 68 others injured, was probably caused by a driver passing through a red light, investigators believe .... **Page 6**

Woman priest dies

One of England's best-known women priests, the Rev Yvonne Irvine, has died after a falling into *a waterfall while on holiday in* Zimbabwe .... **Page 7**

Frail Yeltsin emerges

After more than a month's absence, a frail-looking President Yeltsin was inaugurated as Russia's first democratically elected head of state .... **Page 11**

Bank investigated

The franc dropped sharply after the Government said it was investigating the former directors of Crédit Lyonnais .... **Page 12**

Deputy for Dole

Bob Dole will today announce his poll running-mate .... **Page 13**

Car chases reach end of the road

■ It could be the end of the car chase as we know it. With the automotive equivalent of an stun gun, science fiction is coming to the aid of law enforcement. An electrical device is being developed by the US Army to stop a fleeing vehicle .... **Page 1**

MARTIN BEDDALL

Officer Cadet Nicola Record leads the reviewing party of General Sir Jeremy MacKenzie at the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst yesterday. General MacKenzie, the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, was representing the Queen as more than 600 cadets "passed out"

OPINION

The cost of safety: Maintenance budgets should not be cut, nor safety compromised. Money is tight on the railways. It should be properly spent .... **Page 19**

The people's President: Whatever happens to Mr Yeltsin, yesterday's inauguration is a permanent milestone in mankind's march away from tyranny and arbitrary power .... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Social security hotline; ME and *The Times* doctor; abortion of a twin .... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

Conor Cruise O'Brien: The main question is whether the IRA will accord a ceasefire in time to let Sinn Fein participate in the negotiations at Stormont .... **Page 18**

Magnus Linklater: There are signs that Scotland's capital is going through a mid-life crisis as it heads for the millennium .... **Page 18**

OBITUARIES

Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle, inventor of the jet engine; **Kenneth Fleetwood**, fashion designer and royal dressmaker .... **Page 21**

BUSINESS

Titan: Thousands of investors who joined a successor to the Titan Business Club saw hopes of recovering their investment fade in the High Court .... **Page 23**

Eurostar: All 1,500 staff of Eurostar, the Channel Tunnel train operator, have been asked to consider voluntary redundancy .... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 0.7 points to 3810.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 84.8 to 84.6 after a rise from $1.5495 to $1.5496 but a fall from DM2.3005 to DM2.2908 .... **Page 26**

SPORT

Cricket: England made a spirited response after Pakistan scored 448 in their first innings in the second Test at Headingley .... **Page 44**

Football: Alan Shearer's presence adds a new dimension to the FA Charity Shield game between his new club, Newcastle United, and Manchester United at Wembley tomorrow .... **Page 43**

Golf: Kenny Perry, of the United States, took a one-stroke lead after the rain-affected first round of the US PGA Championship at Louisville .... **Pages 42 and 44**

ARTS

Opera abroad: The Salzburg Festival provides a dispiriting choice of productions, enhanced only by the great quality of the music-making ...... **Page 15**

High drama: Southwark Playhouse stages Mustapha Matura's play *A Small World* .... **Page 15**

Dance icon: *Martha Graham's* company goes to Edinburgh .... **Page 16**

CAR 96

Kevin Eason gives Ford a birthday to remember

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Bones of contention: Will Tsar Nicholas II ever be laid to rest? .... **Page 8**
Broken vows: Republican immorality .... **Page 26**

WEEKEND

Animal life: Peter Barnard on field sports .. **Pages 1, 2**

Books: A. N. Wilson; Rebecca Stowe; and Anne Rice .... **Pages 10, 11**
Travel: .... **Pages 15-19**

10 15

Win: a private screening of the summer comedy *The Stupids*, for you and 200 friends .... **Page 3**

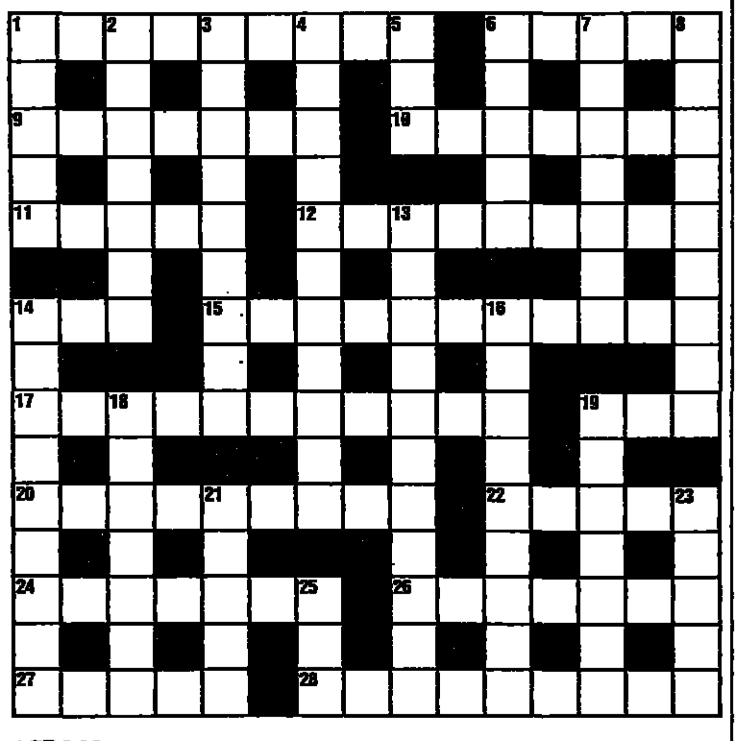
Tonight: Stephen King's *The Stand*, BBC1, 9.15pm
Tomorrow: Jane Horrocks in *Some Kind of Life*, ITV, 9.15pm

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,243

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

....



ACROSS

1 Took risks on endless expedition with distorted judgment (9).
6 A book's presented as prize for sport (5).
9 See, the old poet is now a metalworker (7).
10 Bespectacled teetotal chap, liable to be sat on (7).
11 Cock-and-bull story about English pine (5).
12 With 6 *ac* it's suited for, say, morning service (9).
14 Bark of tree (3).
15 Tethers mules and puffs a lot (5-6).
17 Psychiatrist with test not allowing any reduction (6-5).
19 Aircraft used by Dambusters (3).
20 Bowled over by love affair with sweetheart, finally (9).
22 Isolated small property one's rented (5).
24 Removing wrinkles by heat treatment (7).
26 In backward age, Pitt announced candidate (7).
27 Stout with a lager head can be lethal (5).
28 Protected area where one may be putting a band (5,4).

DOWN

1 The sort of boat he may use? (5).
2 Illiterate unknown is hesitant (7).
3 Visit small prison in this republic (9).
4 *Fiddler you wouldn't ask to play at your table?* (4-7).
5 Two players in doubles upset opponents in opening stages (3).
6 Refined sort of salt (5).
7 Meat to scoff in bed (7).
8 Putting together ideas in treatise getting to the bottom of reported crime (9).
13 Agreement can change in course of supersonic flight (11).
14 Not an outstanding piece of sculpture (3-6).
16 Failin' to catch the chap who lives in Drury Lane? (6-3).
18 Such computer information could be dear (4-3).
19 Equalise scales (7).
21 Gold that is left for college (5).
23 Sappers trapped by high explosive in river (5).
25 Censor joke (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,237

I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T	A	L		A	C	N	E
T		L		O		I		G				O		X
C	H	O	R	U	S	G	I	R	L		E	M	M	A
H		G		B		H		E		S		M		C
			I	L	L	T	R	E	A	T	M	E	N	T
S		D		E				M		U		R		I
A	M	E	N	D	A	B	L	E		P	I	C	O	T
R		E		E		O		N		E		I		U
C	O	P	R	A		O	U	T	O	F	H	A	N	D
O		F		L		M				A		L		E
P	E	R	S	E	V	E	R	A	N	C	E			
H		E		R		R		N		T		S		E
A	B	E	D		D	A	Y	T	R	I	P	P	E	R
G		Z				N		I		O		A		I
I	C	E	D		E	G	O	C	E	N	T	R	I	C

Solution to Puzzle No 20,242

C	O	N	T	R	A	C	T		W	I	G	W	A	M
H		A		A		L				D		A		U
A	R	T	I	C	L	E	S		T	A	U	R	U	S
N		I		O		A		S		H		P		K
G	A	V	I	N		R	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	E
E		E		T		S		A				I		T
			L	E	T	T	E	R	O	P	E	N	E	R
F		S		U		H		T		A		T		Y
I	N	T	E	R	M	E	D	I	A	T	E			
R		A				A		N		C		A		E
S	T	R	I	P	L	I	N	G		H	O	L	L	Y
T		L		E		R		G		W		A		E
A	V	I	A	R	Y		C	A	R	O	U	S	E	L
I		N		S				T		R		K		I
D	O	G	G	E	D		D	E	C	K	H	A	N	D

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *C Bradley, New Malden, Surrey; G Kearns, Maidenhead, Berks; T A Dawson, Chigwell, Essex; S R Datta, London W4; A Stevens, Faversham, Kent.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 5.38 am
Sun sets: 8.32 pm
Moon sets: 5.56 pm
Moon rises: 2.12 am

New Moon August 14

London 8.32 pm to 5.40 am
Bristol 8.42 pm to 5.50 am
Edinburgh 9.00 pm to 5.36 am
Manchester 8.47 pm to 5.42 am
Penzance 8.50 pm to 6.00 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 5.40 am
Sun sets: 8.30 pm
Moon sets: 6.36 pm
Moon rises: 3.04 am

New Moon August 14

London 8.30 pm to 5.42 am
Bristol 8.40 pm to 5.51 am
Edinburgh 8.58 pm to 5.38 am
Manchester 8.45 pm to 5.44 am
Penzance 8.48 pm to 6.07 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.53	6.2	11.22	6.3
Aberdeen	10.48	3.6	11.16	3.7
Avonmouth	3.58	10.3	4.23	10.7
Belfast	8.33	3.0	8.48	3.2
Cardiff	3.38	9.7	4.09	10.0
Devonport	2.35	4.3	3.02	4.6
Dover	8.24	5.5	8.58	5.6
Dublin (N Wall)	9.02	3.5	9.24	3.7
Falmouth	1.46	4.1	2.19	4.3
Greenock	10.11	2.8	10.12	3.0
Harwich	8.45	3.4	9.15	3.4
Holyhead	7.47	4.6	8.15	4.3
Hull (Albert D)	3.10	6.2	3.39	6.1
Ilfracombe	3.01	7.3	3.32	7.6
King's Lynn	3.16	5.3	3.46	5.4
Leith	11.54	4.6		
Liverpool	6.28	7.7	8.54	8.0
Lowestoft	6.35	2.2	7.15	2.2
Margate	9.12	4.1	9.50	4.1
Milford Haven	2.14	5.4	3.44	5.6
Newquay	2.03	5.3	2.30	5.4
Oban	3.32	3.0	3.26	3.1
Penzance	1.46	4.4	2.18	4.7
Portland	3.26	1.3	4.00	1.5
Portsmouth	8.44	4.0	9.00	4.1
Shoreham	8.40	4.9	8.59	5.1
Southampton	9.10	2.9	8.33	4.1
Swansea	3.19	7.4	3.49	7.7
Tees	0.37	4.4	1.08	4.4
Walton-on-Naze	8.42	3.6	9.12	3.6

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Hemsby, Norfolk 24C (75F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 13C (55F); highest rainfall: Jersey, 0.41in; highest sunshine: Morecambe, Lancashire 8.2hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have rain at first. Brighter, showery conditions already over Wales and SW England will spread northeast across all parts. Some of the showers heavy and thundery, especially in the west.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have showers or longer spells of rain, the rain predominantly over Scotland and eventually being replaced by brighter conditions and showers.

Temperatures around the normal.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, E, Cent N, NE England, E Anglia, Midlands:** Rain at first, becoming brighter and drier. A few showers later. Wind southeasterly becoming southwesterly, moderate to fresh. Max 20C to 21C (68F to 70F).

☐ **Channel Is, SW England, Wales:** Rather cloudy, some heavy and blustery showers, perhaps hail and thunder. Wind southwesterly, fresh to strong. Max 20C (68F).

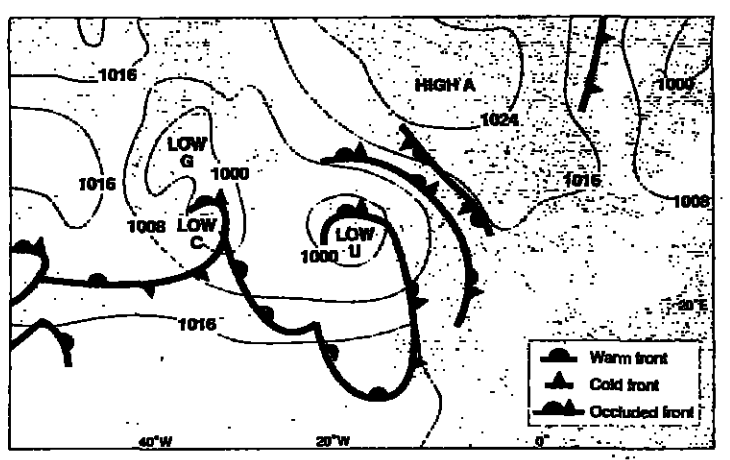
☐ **NW England, Lakes, IoM:** Rain soon clearing. Becoming brighter, but chance of a few showers. Wind southwesterly turning southerly, moderate to fresh. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll:** Rain spreading from the southwest. Brighter later with a few showers. Wind easterly, fresh to strong, turning south or southeasterly. Max 17C to 20C (63F to 68F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Rather cloudy, rain at times. Wind southeast or east, fresh occasionally strong. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **N Ireland:** Bright or sunny intervals and showers. Wind mainly southerly, becoming light. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Outlook:** Unsettled with showers and sunny spells.



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

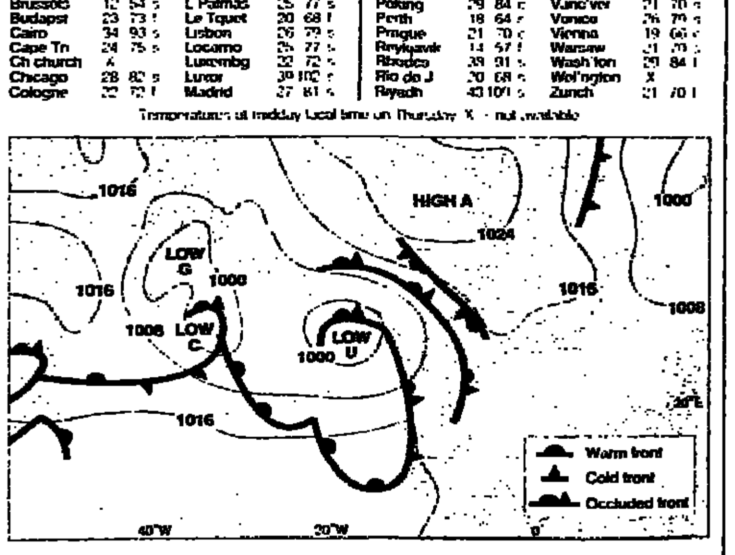
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.8	0.05	18	64	b	Leuchars	3.8	0.04	21	70	b
Anglesey	4.2	0.08	20	68	b	Littlehmptn	2.1	0.03	19	66	r
Aspatria	7.0	0.02	22	72	s	London	0.9	0.01	20	68	c
Aviemore	2.5	0.01	18	64	c	Lowestoft	2.7	0.01	23	73	d
Belfast	5.0	0.01	17	63	r	Manchester	4.5	0.02	21	70	b
Birmingham	2.7	0.02	23	73	c	Margate	1.8	0.01	24	75	c
Bognor R	2.1	0.02	19	66	sh	Minehead	3.3	0.13	22	72	b
Bournem'th	0.2	0.02	19	66	sh	Morecambe	8.2	0.08	20	68	s
Bristol	2.5	0.02	21	70	b	Newcastle	X				
Buxton	1.5	0.06	20	68	b	Norwich	1.1	0.01	23	73	sh
Cardiff	2.2	0.20	21	70	b	Oxford	1.4	0.06	22	72	r
Clacton	X	-	19	66	b	Penzance	X	0.03	19	66	d
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	0.1	0.04	19	66	d
Colwyn Bay	7.3	0.04	23	73	c	Prestatyn	X	0.01	23	73	b
Cromer	1.6	0.01	22	72	c	Ross-o-wye	2.5	0.10	22	72	c
Dunbar	5.6	0.01	22	72	b	Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	6.4	-	20	68	s	Salcombe	2.2	0.15	18	64	c
Edinburgh	3.8	0.01	23	73	b	Sandown	1.6	0.05	21	70	r
Eskdalemuir	6.1	0.19	19	66	sh	Sauntn Snd	1.3	0.11	21	70	b
Exmouth	1.4	0.13	18	64	c	Scarboro'	1.2	0.01	20	68	b
Falmouth	2.6	0.16	19	66	b	Shanklin	1.8	0.12	X	X	r
Fishguard	3.8	0.05	19	66	b	Shrewsbury	3.5	0.10	22	72	b
Folkestone	2.2	0.01	20	68	c	Skegness	1.0	0.06	21	70	c
Glasgow	1.4	0.09	19	66	c	Southend	-	0.01	22	72	sh
Guernsey	6.7	0.11	21	70	sh	Southport	7.5	0.04	22	72	s
Hastings	3.4	0.01	21	70	sh	Southsea	0.8	0.01	20	68	r
Hayling I.	1.9	0.02	19	66	sh	Stornoway	2.4	0.06	17	63	sh
Herne Bay	2.0	-	22	72	c	Swanage	0.4	0.05	18	64	d
Hove	1.9	0.09	18	64	r	Teignmouth	2.7	0.17	19	66	c
Hunstanton	X	-	22	72	b	Tenby	3.9	0.11	18	64	b
Ilfracombe	X					Tiree	3.5	0.02	16	61	c
Isle of Man	*2.9*		*19*	*66*	*b*	*Torquay*	*2.0*	*0.18*	*19*	*66*	*r*
Jersey	1.7	0.41	20	68	r	Tynemouth	X				
Kinloss	3.2	0.02	21	70	b	Ventnor	1.4	0.08	20	68	sh
Leeds	1.9	0.05	21	70	sh	West-s-mare	2.2	0.12	21	70	b
Lerwick	0.4	0.28	13	55	r	Weymouth	0.3	0.07	18	64	c

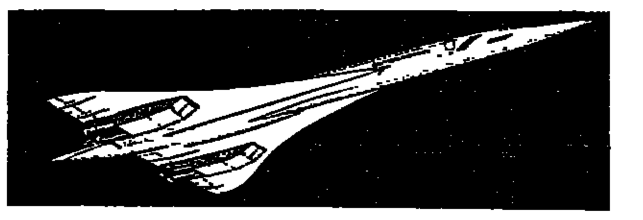
ABROAD

Ajaccio	29	82	s	Corfu	32	90	s	Majorca	29	84	s	Rome	27	81	s
Akrotiri	30	86	s	C'phagn	22	72	f	Malaga	32	90	s	S Frisco	17	63	f
Alex'dria	30	86	f	Dublin	15	59	r	Malta	33	91	s	S Paulo	27	81	c
Algiers	30	86	s	Dubrovnik	X			Melb'rne	10	50	c	Salzburg	24	75	s
Amst'dm	20	68	f	Faro	25	77	s	Mexico C	20	68	f	Santiago	12	54	f
Athens	33	91	s	Florence	28	82	f	Miami	X			Seoul	30	86	f
B Aires	13	55	c	Frankfurt	23	73	s	Milan	29	84	f	Sing'por	23	73	f
Bahrain	41	106	s	Funchal	25	77	f	Montreal	29	84	s	St'kholm	X		
Bangkok	33	91	f	Geneva	21	70	f	Moscow	17	63	c	Strasb'rg	24	75	s
Barbados	30	86	s	Gibraltar	29	84	s	Munich	21	70	c	Sydney	13	55	f
Barcelona	27	81	s	Helsinki	21	70	f	N Delhi	30	86	f	Tangier	25	77	s
Beirut	X			Hong K	X			N York	29	84	s	Tel Aviv	32	90	s
Belgrade	21	70	r	Innsbrck	23	73	c	Nairobi	X			Tenerife	28	82	s
Berlin	21	70	s	Istanbul	29	84	f	Naples	29	84	f	Tokyo	26	79	c
Bermuda	26	79	f	Jeddah	36	97	s	Nice	25	77	f	Toronto	26	79	c
Biarritz	22	72	c	Jo'burg	16	61	s	Oslo	24	75	f	Tunis	34	93	s
Borde'x	27	81	s	L Angels	22	72	f	Paris	25	77	s	Valencia	X		
Brussels	12	54	s	L Palmas	25	77	s	Peking	29	84	r	Vanc'ver	21	70	s
Budapst	23	73	f	Le Touqt	20	68	f	Perth	18	64	s	Venice	26	79	s
Cairo	34	93	s	Lisbon	26	79	s	Prague	21	70	c	Vienna	19	66	c
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	25	77	s	Reykjavik	14	57	f	Warsaw	21	70	s
Ch church	X			Luxembg	22	72	s	Rhodes	33	91	s	Wash'ton	29	84	f
Chicago	28	82	s	Luxor	39	102	s	Rio de J	20	68	s	Wel'ngton	X		
Cologne	22	72	f	Madrid	27	81	s	Riyadh	43	109	s	Zurich	21	70	f

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday. X - not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low C will move northeast and fill, absorbing low G. Complex low U will move slowly north and fill. High A will move east with little change



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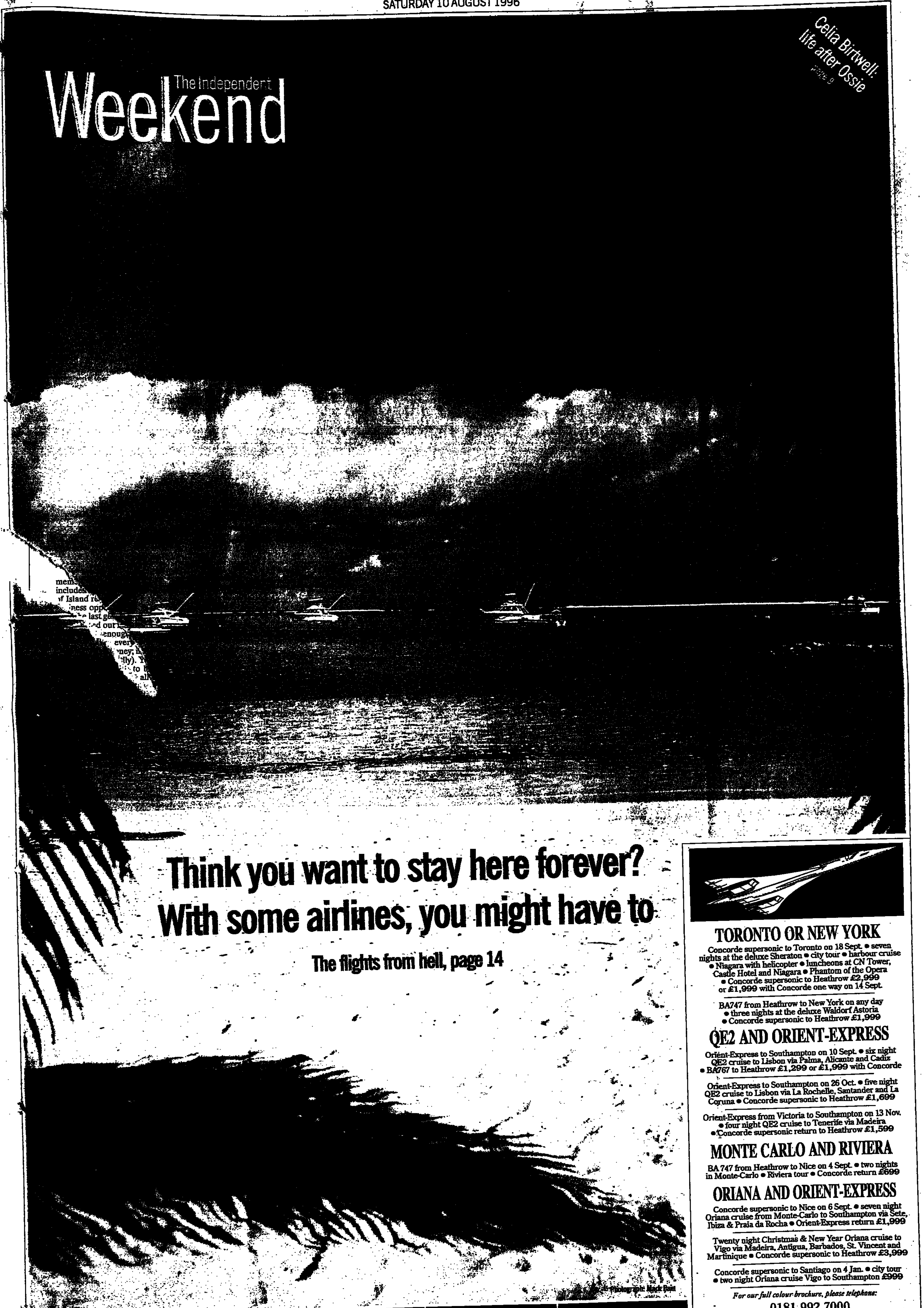
SATURDAY 10 AUGUST 1996

The Independent
Weekend

Celia Birtwell: life after Ossie
page 9



Think you want to stay here forever? With some airlines, you might have to

The flights from hell, page 14

Photograph: Mark Bain

LIVING 2
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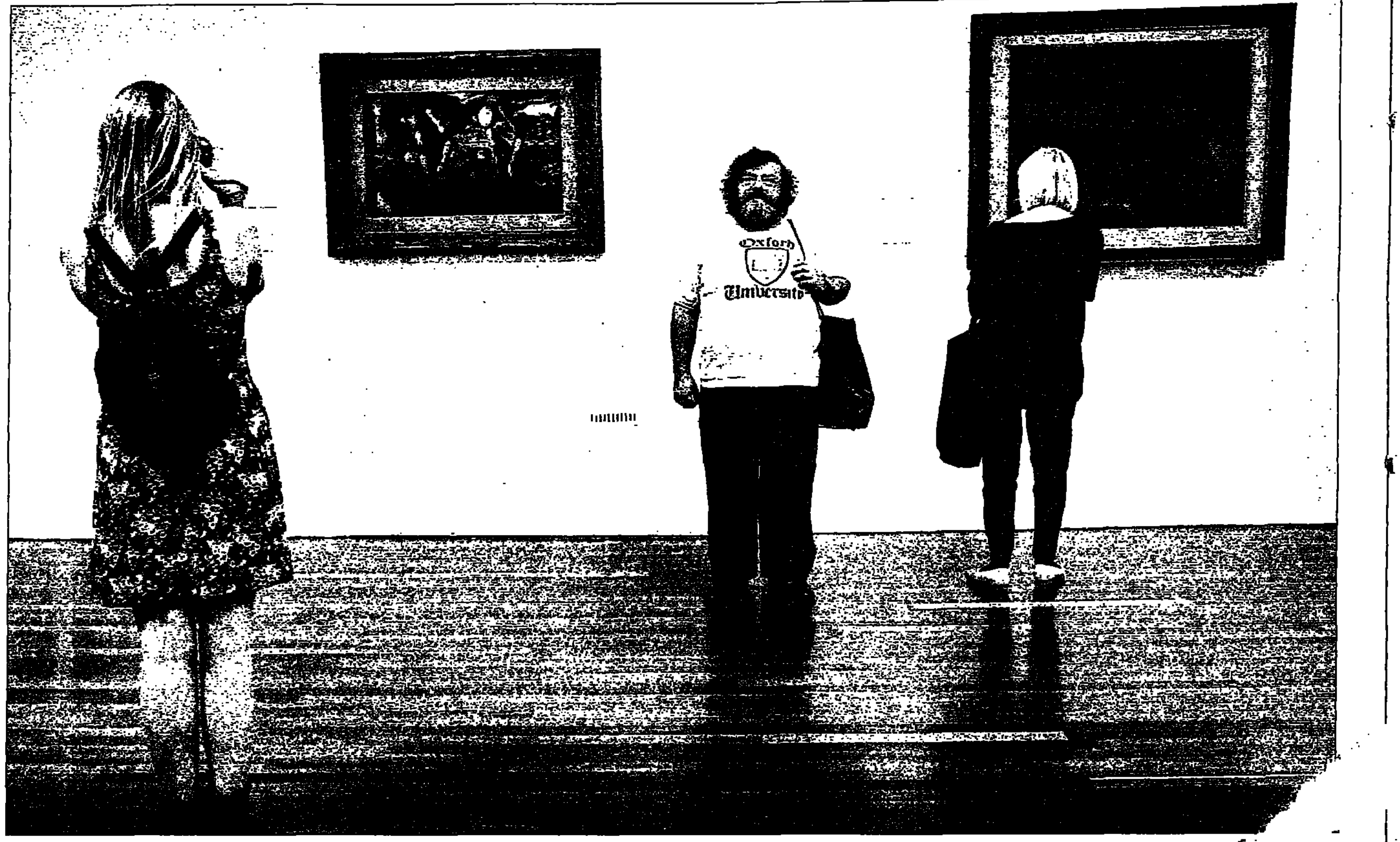

Calling all homeless art lovers: there is hope. Roger Powell was a denizen of cardboard city until advertising maverick Tony Kaye put him in the Saatchi Gallery as a "£1,000 work of art". Life was never the same again, and now he's on show at the Tate. Photograph by David Rose

SERENA MACKESY

In another life

We're sitting in the small garden on Millbank by the Tate Gallery, taking in sunshine, traffic fumes and canned drinks. Loads of people have had the same idea: every available place is filled with gaggles of picnickers: office workers in suits, students with urban rucksacks, flat-heeled, natural-fibred, middle-aged couples. Roger wears an Oxford University T-shirt and totes a black PVC shopping bag of notebooks and art dictionaries. "Sometimes," he says, "I sit on the bench outside here and watch the coach parties come in and out. And I think, well, there are all these tours showing the good side of London but there are no coach tours of cardboard city."

Cardboard city, the huddle of makeshift lean-tos and sleeping bags in a subway near Waterloo Station known as the Bullring, is close to Roger Powell's heart: until just over a year ago, he was living there, sustaining himself on hand-outs and begging for change to buy the odd packet of Benson and Hedges. He had come there through a confluence of misfortune. "Hard luck story" is one of those glib phrases frequently used to justify ignoring suffering. It's easy to forget that one person's hard luck story is another person's bad luck.

Roger's luck, it seems, has turned. In July last year, down in the Bullring, he met Darren Statman. And now he's a walking work of art. You can see Roger every week day at the Tate, touring the exhibits, studying the finer points of painting and talking to anyone who approaches him about homelessness. The art world heaves with people of somewhat eccentric personal appearance, so he's not always immediately obvious, but he's easy to spot. With his bushy beard and gentle demeanour, he's a dead ringer for Father Christmas.

What happened was this. Tony Kaye, artist and adman extraordinaire – whose work includes the recent Nike "Olympic" shorts, the conference of babies discussing the merits of the Vauxhall Astra and the storm-chasing Volvo driver who knocks anything you'll see in *Twister* into a cocked hat – was speaking at the Design and Art Directors' Awards at the Saatchi Gallery in north London.

Kaye, who had first-hand experience of homelessness a decade or so ago, decided to produce something harder-hitting than the usual corporate guff: what he termed a £1,000 work of art in the form of a homeless person, who would become an exhibit at the gallery.

Statman, Kaye's assistant, had been dispatched to recruit a street-dweller. "I was in the Bullring talking to people," he says, "and getting a certain amount of verbal abuse. Plenty of people were suspicious, and you can't blame them, really. Anyway, this guy came up to ask for some money for cigarettes. We had a long talk, and he offered to help me: show me some of the likely places and try to find someone. So we spent the day together, but didn't have a lot of luck. And late in the day, we were sitting on a wall having a drink and I asked him if he'd like to have a go. And he said, 'OK, then, I'll try it.'"

"What the £1,000 buys," says Roger, "is a roof over the head of a homeless person: the initial deposit on a room, a few clothes and maybe getting some food in. It's the cost of getting someone in off the street and into society again."

He lasted two days at the Saatchi, and never went on public display. After an outcry (the homeless charity, Centrepoint, described the idea as "Humiliating ... almost like putting homeless people in a zoo"), the gallery lost its nerve. The Tate stepped in and he has been there since, with forays to the National Gallery, British Museum and spaces in San Francisco, Washington and Los Angeles. Nothing advertises his presence to Tate visitors – although word has spread and many now seek him out. He wanders around the gallery, and may strike up conversations, where welcome, about the art on show and his role as an exhibit.

He has a salary from Kaye's organisation, has moved into a bedsit in Maida Vale and has applied to do a part-time BA in History of Art at Birkbeck College. "They sent me a form which asks me what I do now. I put 'a piece of art'. And they asked me what I've done in the art world and I put down: 'Since July 1995 I've been a work of Art in the Tate Gallery'. I don't know what they'll think of that. Maybe they'll just put me on the course to be studied."

This use of human being as metaphor is a contentious issue: Kaye has been accused of exploitation and self-aggrandisement. His accusers seem to have a point, at least until you meet Roger and find an intelligent man who definitely doesn't feel exploited. He feels he's helping his former companions. "Out on the street you're in a catch-22 situation. If you haven't got an address you can't get a job, and landlords want a minimum of a month's rent. The idea is to make people think. It's a good thing that we have these works of art here for the people and belonging to them, but we spend millions on paintings. There's this huge list of people who want to sponsor the art world. Maybe some day there'll be someone who wants to sponsor the human being."

Roger, 47, hails from Porthcawl in South Wales, where he worked in garages and on building sites, eventually setting himself up with a taxi business. The 1990s hit, and "the business fell through. I had to sell everything to clear my debts. Work was tight in South Wales and I thought I'd stand a better chance in London. I came up in March 1993 with just a few weeks' rent money, moved into a bedsit and started looking for work."

He did an NVQ in business administration that year, then got work in a garage in north London. Roger says the manager was having financial problems and kept borrowing cash from the till, and the owners docked his pay to make up for it. "I was caught in the middle. I could see no way out. I was trapped every way I turned. At the beginning of May I was four weeks behind in my rent and I couldn't see any w[illegible] the situation. So I just left everything [illegible]edsit and went out on to the streets." H[illegible]d there for three months. "Luckily I fou[illegible]od bunch of people there. They show[illegible]ow to get food and a shower and gene[illegible]lped me. People who live on the street ar[illegible] that. They do what they can to help each o[illegible]r."

How does he [illegible]e with his new role? "In the first couple of months, I was very aware of people looking at me, but I got used to it. Now I just carry on learning. If anyone wants to come up and talk to me I'm there to talk to them." Aside from the whole homeless thing, he now knows a heck of a lot about art, and approaches it with the irreverence of the auto-didact.

A stroll round the gallery with Roger is enormous fun. Everyone who works there exchanges friendly greetings as he passes through the rooms, while others glance at him and look shy. His favourite work is by Gainsborough and Reynolds, with the light values of the Impressionists and the starchy detail of 16th-century portraiture coming up hard behind. He doesn't have a lot of time for the Abstract Expressionists or conceptualists, despite being a bit of a conceptual work himself. He is also well up on the details of artists' lives – and their deaths. I've always been under the impression that Jackson Pollock did himself in and mention it as we stare at one of his enormous Rorschach tests. "No," says Roger. "He went in a car crash. The one who did hara-kiri was Rothko".

Has he any ambitions himself to paint? He laughs. Roger laughs quite easily and it's a sweet, infectious sound, occasionally marred by the cough from the Bennies he still smokes. "I'm happy to have a go, yeah. But I think Picasso can rest in peace at the moment. I think I'm more of a Pollock, you know; put things on the floor and throw things at it. Probably the Americans would appreciate it. They think the sun shines out of his ears."

So: from homeless and hopeless to a man with a future. Darren is a devoted admirer. "I look at the change from when we first met him. He was very shy. A lot of that came from living on the streets. At that stage it's hard to see any way upwards and it's possible to spiral downwards even more. And Roger hasn't. He's very proud of himself, and he should be. We were out on my birthday recently, my friends and people from work, and we all went to this pub. There were some people in the corner who shouted out to him: "Oi! You're that art piece at the Tate, aren't you?" And he went, 'I'm a super-celebrity'. I think I'll soon be acting as a bodyguard."

I woke to find myself fearful of my fuzzy felt toy dragon. His tail seemed to be moving

EMMA FORREST

I dream a lot. Usually, my dreams are smudgy Xeroxes of the Jack Lemmon movie *The Out-of-Towners* (the old "not being able to get to an appointment on time" anxiety attack). I'm used to it. I dream through the night, except between the time of 4.15am and 5.30am, when I automatically wake up and watch MTV and dance for a while or look out of the window. But lately, my dreams have been so violent, sick and bloody that David Cronenberg wouldn't touch 'em with a stick.

I wake up with my heart pumping so hard and my eyes so wide with fear that sleep is a physical impossibility. It means that I get a lot of work done before most people are even contemplating breakfast, but I crash out through the afternoon. Until about the age of 11, I would wake my mum up at least once a night, usually twice. But for a few years, it passed. Now I find myself so terrified of my room, the sound of cars and the water pipes gurgling, that the only thing that lulls me to sleep is the flicker of a video in the background. However, most films have one or two scary scenes, so most films are out. I can pretty much only sleep to *The Breakfast Club*, *Funny Face* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Technology is truly the modern comforter. Unfortunately, the comfort only lasts as long as the video, so every two hours I have to get up and rewind the tape. All week, I've felt like I was losing it. After four days of virtual non-sleep, I found myself eating late one evening in a Soho restaurant, desperate not to go to bed.

A friend of Steve's walked in with a mate and started chatting and asking if I wanted to come and sit with them. I've always wanted to have a proper conversation with this guy, but my brain was so fuzzy that I could hardly get the words out of my mouth, except to stutter. "Thank you. But I think it would be better if you just went back and sat down." I felt like Michael Jackson in the *Thriller* video: "Please, you have to leave now, for your own safety. I'm about to turn into a werewolf."

I went back to the flat and waited for Grace to get home, listening to "Boys of Summer" by Don Henley, over and over again, convinced that he was singing, "I *can't* tell you my love for you will still be strong after the boys of summer have gone..." instead of "I can tell you..."

Grace is on holiday now and I'm not doing a great job of coping. At 4.15am, after a pleasant Saturday night out with the girls, I woke to find myself fearful of my fuzzy felt toy dragon. His tail seemed to be moving. I rang the girls, who answered the phone wearily but sympathetically after 16 rings, and told me to come round. They fixed me tea, put me in a spare bed, and we sat up and giggled all night.

The next day, I went home to see my mum. I was walking up the street, muttering "Oh, my God" and slapping my forehead with my hand, which is what always happens when I think about sex too much, when I heard someone call my name. It was a school friend's mother, pulling alongside me in her silver car. I tried quickly to compose myself. Not only is she the sweetest woman on earth, but she also looks like Stéphane Audran. All you need to do is go out looking your absolute worst, and you are guaranteed to run into her. She gave me a lift while I tried to look like someone who hadn't just been talking to themselves in the street.

That night, I slept in my old bed. The sheets smelt of freshly laundered bunny rabbits and dog-eared posters of Liam gazed reassuringly down on me. I slept perfectly, not stirring for a second between 11pm and 10.30am the next day. This is all very well and good, but now I am becoming a little worried that the only way to cure my insomnia is to move back home. I talked about the nightmares with mum and she relayed a Fay Weldon quote about why children are afraid of the dark. "It's because they feel guilty. They know how bad they are." So for a sweet night's sleep, all I have to do is become a better person. Yeah, right. I can't wait to see what videos they're going to play on MTV at 4.15 tomorrow morning.

هكذا من الأصل

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A chance to refresh souls and reaffirm belief in things other than material

The 50th Edinburgh International Festival opens tomorrow. Here Sir Ian Hunter, who became assistant to Rudolf Bing, Edinburgh's first artistic director, upon leaving the army in 1946, recalls the circumstances of the festival's launch.

"The idea for the festival came partly, I believe, from Bing himself, who was general manager at Glyndebourne Opera before the war, and partly from the soprano Audrey Mildmay, the wife of Glyndebourne's founder, John Christie.

Glyndebourne itself had closed down for the war and become a home for evacuees, while Bing was working as manager of Peter Jones, the department store. In 1940, though, the company mounted a short tour of *The Beggar's Opera*. So it was that, one night after a performance in Edinburgh, Bing and Mildmay were standing together at a tram stop in Princes Street when the moon came out and lit up the Castle. It's never been established exactly who said it to whom, but one of them anyway exclaimed to the other: "What a wonderful place this would be to hold a festival."

I remember that the idea of the festival appealed particularly strongly to the city's Lord Provost, Sir John Falconer, a very distinguished, erudite man (and a lawyer by training). Above all, he wanted to see the countries of Europe come together again and heal the wounds of war. That is why the word "international" in the festival's title is so relevant. As Falconer wrote in the foreword to the souvenir programme for the first festival in 1947: "This festival is not a commercial undertaking in any way. It is an endeavour to provide a stimulus to the establishing of a new way of life centred round the arts. For the three weeks of the Festival, [Edinburgh] will surrender herself to the visitors and hopes that they will find in all the performances a sense of peace and inspiration with which to refresh their souls and reaffirm their belief in things other than material."

You have to imagine the background against which this first festival arose. The war had been over for just two years. Food rationing, clothes rationing, furnishing rationing were almost at their height – worse than during the war. If you had bread with your lunch, for example, it counted as a course, and you weren't allowed more than three courses a meal.

EDINBURGH
at 50

Restaurants and hotels were really run down. I remember being sent to Clacton, I think it was, on the Thames Estuary, to check over a passenger ship that was laid up there – with a view to it being brought up to Leith and used as a floating hotel for the festival. The idea never actually came off, but it gives some idea of the privations we were under, and the imagination we had to use to overcome them.

The 24th August 1947 is written on my mind – the opening concert with L'Orchestre des Concerts Colonne from Paris, conducted by Paul Paray. For a start, the weather was wonderful: every day, for the whole three weeks the sun continued to shine. There was Barbirolli with the Hallé and Sir Malcolm Sargent with the Liverpool Philharmonic. Glyndebourne Opera, of course, with performances of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and Verdi's *Macbeth*, both directed by the legendary Carl Ebert.

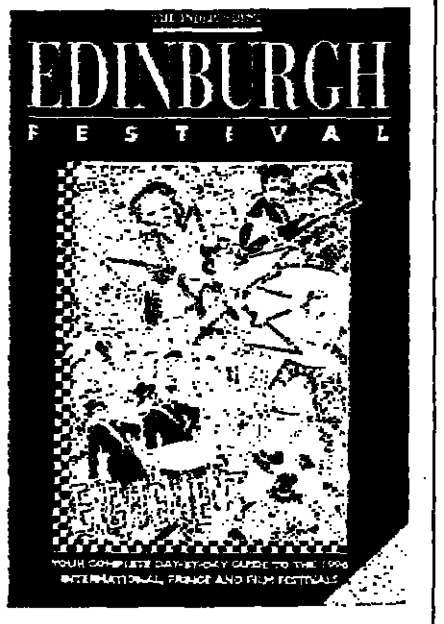
The greatest moment, however, was the arrival of the Vienna Philharmonic. Bing had managed to persuade Bruno Walter, the orchestra's old conductor, to come over from America, where he had been living since 1939. So here they were in Edinburgh, together again for the first time since before the war. It really was a most moving event. It was at this time that Walter also auditioned Kathleen Ferrier to sing *Das Lied von der Erde* with him, which effectively launched her international career.

Then there was the Old Vic (with Alec Guinness in *Richard II*) and Sadler's Wells Ballet (with Margot Fonteyn in *Sleeping Beauty*). Louis Jouvet, the great French actor, brought his company over from Paris with Molière's *L'école des femmes* and *Ondine* by Giraudoux. Elisabeth Schumann sang in recital with Bruno Walter; Joseph Szigeti played Brahms sonatas with Artur Schnabel. Altogether, an extraordinary level of artistry and international spirit of renewal shining out from a dark past. As the first event of its kind ever held in this country, it generated enormous excitement and was almost immediately recognised abroad.

In 1949, I myself succeeded Bing as artistic director. One of my first priorities was to introduce art exhibitions into the festival mix, and within five years we had shown Rembrandt, El Greco, Degas, Renoir, Cézanne and a magnificent homage to Diaghilev curated by Richard Buckle. But the highlight of my time was probably the 1951 visit of the New York Philharmonic. They gave 14 concerts, half with Bruno Walter, half with Dimitri Mitropoulos – their first visit to Europe since 1936, I believe. We were able to bring them over with a special grant as part of the Festival of Britain that year. They're here again at this year's festival, with two programmes under Kurt Masur, but it's impossible to conceive of a visiting orchestra ever again giving 14 such concerts in this day and age."

Sir Ian Hunter was talking to Gina Cowen

■ *Thomas Sutcliffe and his column return in September*



The Independent Edinburgh Festival guide – with comprehensive dayplanners to 21 days of music, theatre, comedy, film and fringe, plus our critics' choice of the show you mustn't miss – available free at all good newsagents in the city

He's football crazy, pop music mad

So Chris Wright has bought QPR. Pop moguls seem to like empire building – are they shrewd businessmen or just boys at heart? By Emma Daly

Chris Wright is living every lad's fantasy, a life revolving around football and music. The 51-year-old founder of Chrysalis records, first home of Sixties stalwarts Jethro Tull and Procol Harum, is the proud, new owner of QPR, having sunk more than £10m into his life-long passion.

With an estimated worth of £60m, Wright is the third member of the Seventies record boss trinity that also includes Richard Branson and Chris Blackwell, founder of Island records, and the latest to diversify into new-business opportunities. These men, the first and perhaps the last generation of backroom pop moguls, may have started out in love with music, but they were certainly smart enough to make it pay. In the Sixties, so the myth goes, everyone was far too stoned to think about making money; in the Eighties, however, "Greed was good" (allegedly). Yet these three Sixties survivors are wealthy enough to buy their dreams; while their yuppie successors have all too often ended up the casualties of capitalism.

Wright wasn't just an idealistic music-lover – he steered clear of drink, and read politics and history at Manchester. When he left the university in 1966, he began working for a talent agency while he wondered what to do next, then formed his own company with Terry Ellis (hence Chrysalis). "My first job didn't seem glamorous at the time. We always wore jeans and T-shirts and sported long hair and beards," he says. "The beauty of the job was that it didn't feel like work and I would have done it for free. I worked hard."

Unusually for a pop person, an old friend and fellow QPR supporter is Sir Terence Burns, Chief Secretary to the Treasury (another is Branson, who visits the Wright family at their home in Gloucestershire). "He is very able," says Sir Terence. "He's very good fun, I don't regard him as enormously showy or with a giant ego ... in a pop culture developing all the time [success comes from] his ability to read where tastes are going. I think Branson has a lot of the same abilities."

In 1985, Wright floated Chrysalis Group, which now includes television and film production companies, on the stock market and in 1991 sold the record label on to Thorn-EMI. So, although he has supported QPR with a passion for more than 20 years – his Chrysalis office even overlooks the club ground – his new toy is intended to make a profit. "He would never have done it on a whim," says Mark Edwards, a spokesman for Wright (the mogul, very sensibly, is on holiday). But as a small club recently relegated to the First Division, QPR alone was no money-spinner, so Wright has bought half of Wasps, the rugby union club, and plans to play first-team matches at the QPR ground, Loftus Road in Shepherd's Bush, west London.

"It's been something he has thought about for a while, but it was the idea of putting QPR together with Wasps that began to make financial sense," says Edwards. Wright professes himself "delighted" and "slightly worried" by the success of his bid. "But," he adds, "brave moves are necessary and I hope that this will be to the advantage of all concerned." And the omens are good: he has made his fortune so far by investing in his favourite pursuits (he owns a 300-acre stud farm and string of race-horses, Heart FM radio station and the Sheffield Sharks basketball team). "He's made a lot of money, but he's involved in activities which he likes and enjoys, but which make financial sense," says Edwards.

The same could be said for Chris Blackwell (of Crosse & Blackwell), though people in the record industry say he is the mogul driven most purely by his love of music. He released his first record in Jamaica in 1958, then moved to London in the Sixties and began distributing West Indian records to specialist shops. His first British single was "My Boy Lollipop" on the Island label in 1964, and he followed this up by signing Steve Winwood and the Spencer Davis Group and working with Free, Jethro Tull – at Chris Wright's request – and Mott the Hoople. He distributed *Tubular Bells* for Branson's Virgin group, and signed Roxy Music. But, true to his roots, he also picked up Bob Marley and the Wailers. And 10 years later, he had a new act, an Irish band – U2.

His defining ability, and the one that sets him apart from his rivals, is his "inherent musicality", according to Rob Partridge, who has worked with Blackwell for 20 years. "He can actually go in and produce a record," Partridge explains. "I don't think Richard Branson has every claimed he can go into a studio and come out with a B52s album."

Blackwell's life-long passion is Jamaica, his home. He owns Goldeneye, where Ian Fleming lived, and has (at official request) restored Firefly, Noël Coward's home, inspired perhaps by the fact that his mother, Blanche Blackwell, often acted as hostess for Coward. He now owns several hotels beloved of travel hacks and celebs – yet surprisingly affordable to the non-Jet Set – including Compass Point on Love Beach in the Bahamas and Strawberry Hill in Jamaica.

"It's a way of actually ensuring the local economy succeeds," says Partridge. "We're not talking about eco-tourism, but we are talking about making sure the local communities are involved in, rather than divorced from, the buildings." So all produce served at the hotel is locally grown, for example.

Chris Wright, founder of Chrysalis records, brought us Sixties band Jethro Tull (left), and invested £10m in his football dream. Chris Blackwell launched Island records on the back of Bob Marley and the Wailers (right)

Photographs: UPPA / Rex Features

Blackwell, who sold Island to Polygram, has also started a record label in Jamaica. He has "revealed himself to be equally at home dealing with music and business", says Partridge. "He obviously has an acute business brain." But an industry executive adds: "It was all about his personal taste and that's why the label retains credibility. [Island] weren't signing pop, they were signing tasteful broadsheet kinds of artists."

As for Branson, there is little new to say – Virgin now encompasses cola, condoms, PEPs, and, of course, the tycoon's pride and joy: his airline. Britain's cheeriest magnate is now going back to square one, with a new record label. Like the other two, he sold out to one of the major record companies for several hundred million dollars, thanks to the label's lucrative back catalogues.

That is not really an option for the next generation of music entrepreneurs, the men who founded Factory (Anthony Wilson) and Rough Trade (Geoff Travis). Both labels, the success stories of the post-punk era, collapsed around the turn of the decade. Although both men are still in the business, both still need to work for a living. The reason, Wilson explains, is a fundamental difference in approach from the hippie magnates who went before.

"We were just a different generation, very much coming out of punk, very anarchistic and very anti-materialistic," he says. "I think they were business people." It's not, he said, that the Big Three were simply entrepreneurs. "I think they went into it loving music as well. The question is always where making money comes in your list of priorities; I think for most of them it was 1 or 2, and for most of us it was number 43."

Up to a point. The Sex Pistols re-formed this year for the "Filthy Lucre" tour designed entirely to make money, while Wilson himself was famous at the time for his yuppie suits and conspicuous consumption. But he did put his money into schemes that he loved – the Hacienda club in Manchester, for instance.

What of the moguls of the Nineties? Alan McGee, 35, the founder of Creation records whose assets include Oasis, Primal Scream and the Jesus and Mary Chain, discovered this generation's lovable northern lads just in time to save himself from bankruptcy – he owed £8m to Sony. Now he, too, is a millionaire with footballing ambitions. McGee "behaved more intelligently," Wilson says, by selling half of Creation to Sony several years ago, thus ensuring there were deep pockets to tide him over the lean years. And this year he has made a complex but highly lucrative deal with Sony over Oasis that will allow him to keep artistic control for several years and pocket around £12m.

"Money doesn't really mean anything to me," he has said. "I get more of a buzz from the music." However, real riches are the key to realising his boyhood fantasies. "I need £100m so that eventually I'll come up and buy Rangers from David Murray. That's my absolute dream and, for me, it's making it. The bottom line is buying Glasgow Rangers – even if it takes 10 years." Chris Wright would be proud.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 34.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1995.
Source - Pulp & Paper Information Centre.

THEATRE Hedda Gabler, Donmar Warehouse, London / Chichester Festival

In the red corner, production A: thoughtful, but offering a buttoned-up Hedda. In the blue corner, production B: less well organised, but boasting a riveting Harriet Walter. Paul Taylor referees the great Ibsen showdown

Hedda to Hedda clash – a double Hedda. Lindy Davies's Chichester staging of Ibsen's great play has opened in the same week that Stephen Unwin's English Touring Theatre version embarked on its London run at the Donmar Warehouse. A coincidence calculated to cause a serious case of bad puns and invidious comparisons in the resulting reviews. The way they measure up to each other can be simply stated. Unwin's is the more carefully pondered account of the play but it narrows the confines within which Alexandra Gilbreath's Hedda is allowed to operate. At Chichester, Davies's production isn't nearly as thought-through but the multiple contradictions in the heroine are encompassed with a thrilling ice-and-fire flair by Harriet Walter.

Hair in a tight bun, severe face propped up by repressively high collars, Gilbreath's stiff, sexless Hedda paces around with her hands clasped behind her back, very much the General's daughter in that she looks in permanent readiness to inspect the troops. Her voice, in its breathy over-deliberateness, sounds like a bad take-off of Margaret Thatcher.

Indeed, the whole performance has the distancing air of an awkward impersonation. In his admirable refusal to present the rest of the characters from Hedda's distorted point of view, Unwin risks giving us a heroine from whom it is all too easy to remain clinically detached. The one moment when this barrier brilliantly breaks down comes when the heroine has dispatched Lovborg to his death and she erupts in a cry that begins as jubilant triumph and ends with her doubled up in despair.

Hedda, in this conception of her, seems too frozenly discontinuous with her past. It's hard to believe she once danced, let alone danced herself to a standstill. The perverted romantic who understands the kinky appeal of an idealised "beautiful" death is more vibrantly on display in Walter's performance, where high necklines are replaced by bewitching *décolletage*. You watch Gilbreath; the other Hedda pulls you into her nervous system.

Walter's heroine positively reeks of class, but she also shows how Hedda's disdain for the bourgeois conventions of her husband's family is belied by her own genteel horror of scandal. Such self-destructive inconsistencies are beautifully brought out. When she hears there will be a competitor for the professorship her husband has banked on, Walter's face works with a little acidic smile that combines *schadenfreude* and frustration. Again, when Mrs Elvsted tells her that she has collaborated with Lovborg, Hedda's "really?" is both imperious and tight with jealousy. Pounding her belly with her fists, she communicates the desperation of a woman who longs to shape another person's destiny but not in the bitterly parodic sense of bearing the child of an unloved husband.

The grandeur and the pettiness, the wit and the lack of humour: it's all there. The rest of the cast, by and large, compare poorly with Unwin's. For example, Nicholas le Prevost's Tesman is a floppy-haired, flustered caricature of a scholar, seen at Hedda's valuation, whereas Crispin Letts in the Unwin grows in our respect and manages eventually to deliver a fiery rebuke to his wife. His is one of a number of notable characterisations – from David Killick, who is all urbane insinuation as a luxuriantly moustached Judge Brack, to Jonathan Phillips who, as Lovborg, Tesman's unstable rival, brings a dangerous foxy sexuality and a glint of the unhinged.

ETT at the Donmar. Booking: 0171-369 1732. To 31 Aug
Chichester Festival Theatre. Booking: 01243 781312. To 17 Aug

Handle with care: Alexandra Gilbreath's cool Hedda (top) takes it out on Jonathan Phillips's foxy Lovborg, and (below) Harriet Walter's complex beast has a go at Peter Blythe's Judge Brack Photographs:Stuart Morris

PROMS

Russian National Orchestra / Pletnev

Nicholas Williams applauds an evening of Slavonic excellence at the Royal Albert Hall

The capacity crowd at Thursday's early-evening Prom clearly knew a few good reasons to be there. The Russian National Orchestra under Mikhail Pletnev counted for one or two of them, depending on whether you hear their inspired musicianship as indivisible or a team effort.

Michael Collins playing Mozart's Clarinet Concerto on basset clarinet, as first intended, was an added attraction. Yet another, for Slavophiles, was the chance to hear a triptych of Romantic tone-poems, rarely found singly, let alone together, played by an orchestra that might have been specially formed to capture the nuance of their style.

Anatol Lyadov is best remembered as the man who failed to complete a Diaghilev ballet called *The Firebird*. But he was also a mini-master of the Russian folklore style, a flame kept alive in *Baba-Yaga*, *The Enchanted Lake* and *Kikimora*. Taken together, they make a balanced suite that may not connect with our deepest emotions, yet weaves spells of comedy and mystery. The pictorial spirit is close to that of Dukas in *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, and is of an equally high order. The somnolent chords and drifting melody of *The Enchanted Lake* make for some of the best aquatic music to be found before water became the favourite medium of 20th-century musical impressionists. Stravinsky himself must have kept the opening measures of *Kikimora* in mind when writing his own "Berceuse" for *The Firebird*.

The orchestral strings maintained their impeccable discipline for the Mozart, a pleasant outing in authenticity that replaced the frothiness of the standard clarinet with the older instrument's burbling, caramel timbre. Authenticity in a more dramatic aspect was to be found when the full orchestra returned to perform Shostakovich's 10th Symphony in a reading of rare intensity, heightened, it seemed, by the sharply national flavour these players quite naturally deliver.

Style being a matter of detail, it could be heard in the minutiae of their playing. Pairs of flutes, clarinets and bassoons in the first movement took their parts like well-prepared actors. The hollow ending, piccolos keening above the distant thunder of timpani, led seamlessly to an orgiastic scherzo where evil strode fearlessly through the land. Resonant brass, ranged left for power beside the double-basses, combined balance and accuracy. The third-movement horn call seemed aurally perfect, at least from the oddly placed critics' enclave due west of the conductor's ear. At the tempestuous height of the finale, trumpets and trombones belted out the composer's password, DSCH. In the hush that followed, someone applauded prematurely. Distracting, of course; but, with playing like this, it was difficult to blame them.

TELEVISION Filthy Rich (C4) A portrait of Eric Hall, hated football agent, which steadfastly refused to give his game away. By Jasper Rees

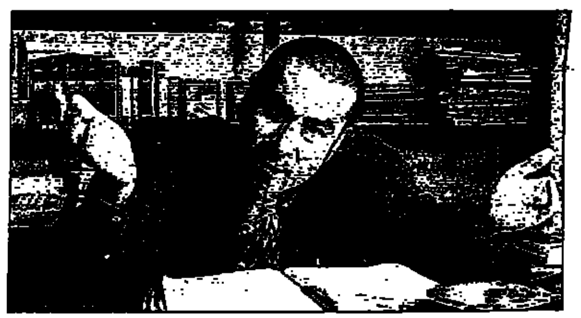
What's the difference between a footballer and his agent? One gives 110 per cent. The other takes 10 per cent. At a time when the English game is widely thought to be losing touch with reality, we can give thanks for one thing. At least Alan Shearer's agent is not Eric Hall. If he had been, Hall's fourth place in a recent Most Hated Man in Britain poll would have seemed a very modest gauge of the esteem in which he is held.

Hall could never be Shearer's agent because his schtick is comprehensible to Londoners only. All his best-known clients are from dahn sahf, the raffish ones as frequently sighted on the front pages of the half-pint papers as the back. Because the biggest deals are being cut for northerners and foreigners, Hall's visibility is out of all proportion to his clout.

Not that you were told any of this in Part 1 of *Filthy Rich*, a series aiming to get inside the heads of the eponymous Croesi. Coming from a profession that requires cards to be kept close to chests, information to be traded via nudges, winks, hedges and bluffs, of course Hall wasn't giving anything away, and the programme seemed happy to collude in the secretiveness with which he shrouds life and work. Whenever he was asked for specifics of his business dealings, he'd clam up, citing the fact that he hasn't got a licence. Though we were never told why.

Someone from the articulate wing of the Chelsea fan-club argued persuasively that Hall operates from behind the smoke-screen of a Jewish caricature. His mother, the loudly spangled Eva, unsurprisingly claimed he'd always been a quiet boy. So while he may seem a breed apart – an agent so flamboyant that the world has actually heard of him – he's not so dissimilar from his clients, fellow troughers pigging all the way to the bank. The clichés are more florid and unorthodox, but in the end they amount to the same thing: conversational evasions, obstacles to enlightenment. In Hall's lexicon, the words "monster monster" have the same redundancy as "we'll take each game as it comes".

To this tactic, he adds the less conventional one of mashing his words together in a patois of impedimented sibilants and glottal stops. Even if he had said something revealing, you probably wouldn't have understood it anyway. So you waited in vain for a question to navigate a passage into Hall's psyche. In the end, you had to grope through coded signifiers towards your own conclusions. He started out in Tin Pan Alley in the same office as Elton John. At a small family gathering he introduced us to a handsome thing who does a bit of work for him. And he left home at 48. As a kind of supplementary insight, they played Queen on the soundtrack ("Mamma mia, let me go. Let him go? No no no no no no no!"). The puerile grin and squeezy blinks are pure Benny Hill. This is just a guess, but is the rest of him too?


Eric Hall, the fourth most hated man in Britain. Only the fourth?

THE SUNDAY REVIEW

■

The art of romance... The irrepressible **Peter Conrad** has a close encounter with the irresistible Edna O'Brien

■

Plus: **Bernardo Bertolucci** talks about his controversial new film

■

And: is there life on Jupiter's moons, too?

■

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

THE WEEK IN
REVIEW
David
Benedict

GAUTIER DEBLONDE

	THE MOVIE **INDEPENDENCE DAY**	THE PLAY **THE RED BALLOON**	THE TV SERIES **MURDER ONE**
overview	Roland *Stargate* Emmerich directs the biggest B-movie ever made, a special effects collision between a 1950s alien pic, a 1970s disaster movie and a military-saving-the-world thriller with (as if you cared) Jeff Goldblum.	The children's musical of Albert Lamorisse's classic short film about a lonely Parisian boy and a mysterious red balloon, adapted and directed by Anthony Clark and composer Mark Vibrans, designed by Ruari Murchison.	After the hiatus caused by the Olympics, the jury in Steven Bochco's baroque 23-chapter murder trial series reached its verdict. There then followed a further cliff-hanging episode and final clinching evidence.
critical view	Adam Mars-Jones hailed all-American, "gloriously no-nonsense nonsense". "A kids movie for adults ... not exactly credible, cathartic or even memorably silly," surmised the *Guardian*. "Forget subtext. This scrappy, spectacularly juvenile remake of *War of the Worlds*," adjudged *Time Out*. "The mother of all doomsday dramas," yelped *Variety*. "An outsize, indigestible popcorn feast," scoffed the *Times*. "A fast-moving, feelgood apocalypse," conceded the *FT*. "The odd thing about it is that it isn't ever scary, and it's hardly ever thrilling," sighed the *Spectator*.	Paul Taylor and his six-year-old were charmed. "The show achieves lift off... a nice line in unforced poignancy." "Nothing about this production falls short of excellence," exclaimed *Time Out*. "By the heartstopping climax everyone I could see, myself included, was in tears," cheered the *FT*. "Heavy on whimsy," opined the *Standard*. "Promises more magic than it delivers," grumbled the *Telegraph*. "Very young kids must find it cloying," regretted the *Observer*. "Younger members of the audience erupted in noisy delight," noted the *Guardian*.	Thomas Sutcliffe regretted the weak denouement but saluted the series. "It was all just procedure, really, but it was compelling." "The first 22 chapters had us captive and convinced that sophistication and Made-in-America need not be mutually exclusive," agreed the *Telegraph*. "I thought I'd had a reasonable return of entertainment," declared the *Times*. "Worth waiting the 23 weeks just to see a smile on the face of defence lawyer," grinned the *Mirror*. "Murder One's passé marriage of video technology and voyeurism," carped the *Guardian*.
on view	145 mins, cert 12. Is there a cinema where it isn't playing?	Mornings and afternoons only at the Olivier, National Theatre (0171-928 2252) to 31 August.	The final three episodes are repeated in a bumper package on BBC2 tomorrow at 10pm.
our view	In just five weeks it has taken $230,877,807 at the US box-office. Grade 'A' schlock.	You don't need a child to enjoy it. Far more interesting than many a large-scale musical.	Great run, shame about the finish. Surprise! Series two is on the way... foolishly without defence lawyer Daniel Benzali.

KEY
EXCELLENT
GOOD
OK
POOR
DEADLY

هكذا من الأصل

No sneezing please, we're British

Paul Binding reflects on the significance of hay fever and the shortcomings of the Condition-of-England novel

Every year, at the end of July, I am afflicted with hay fever, and very ill I often feel. At least, I think during these miserable weeks, I don't have to sit examinations any more, remembering that one of my texts for A-Level English Literature actually took in the subject of hay-fever. In Forster's *Howards End*, the Wilcoxes, representatives of the philistine, uncaring business and official classes, suffer from it. Out of doors they go to practise their hearty sports, only to fall a-sneezing: their allergy compels them to retreat inside. Only Mrs Wilcox, the *magna mater*, is exempted. As I have no doubt I wrote in my 'A' Level paper, Forster shows us the essential rootlessness of the male Wilcoxes – their profound severance from Nature – by giving them hay-fever.

Howards End is a condition-of-England novel, ending with a set-piece: the big meadow at Howards End is being cut "and it'll be such a crop of hay as never". (In fact hay as such rarely brings on hay-fever; it certainly doesn't mine.) We are obviously invited here to be present at the harvesting, the desirable inheriting, of England herself. Mr Wilcox, senior member of his tribe, is sneezing away indoors, while another hay-fever sufferer (Charles Wilcox) has been locked up in gaol. Howards End and its meadow (ie England) will eventually pass, the book's last pages make clear, to Helen Schlegel's son who won't have a drop of Wilcox blood in him and therefore no chances at all of the allergy.

I will admit that, with streaming eyes and red nose, I make an unappealing figure; but I can't help feeling it's a bit tough that my affliction debars me from being one of the inheritors of my own country. But even in my sixth-form days, I realised that the England Forster was so concerned to build was tilted in favour of the fine, strong and handsome, even though he was physically no great shakes himself. *The Longest Journey* is another condition-of-England novel, moving through a paradigmatic landscape, from prehistoric rings and ancient downlands where we find shepherds (about whom Forster knew next-to-nothing) to Home Counties, Empire-feeding public schools (about which he knew all too much). The inheritor of England here is Stephen Wonham, a child of Nature who is apt to chuck clods of earth at you to attract your attention, as he does at the novel's representative of Cambridge humanist ethics, Ansell.

The condition-of-England novel once represented the fictional mainstream: such works, from *The Way We Live Now* to *Hard Times* to *Vanity Fair*, were the ocean-going liners of Victorian fiction. But along with the dislocations of modernism and the decline of imperialist visions came a distaste for such vast panoramic endeavours. But now, it seems, the condition-of-England novel is creeping back. Ever since Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities* offered a vision of New York from top to bottom, from Wall Street to the Bronx, literary commentators have wondered where the London equivalent is coming from. Margaret Drabble tried to provide it, with *The Radiant Way* and its sequels. Her sister A. S. Byatt's most recent book *Babel Tower* was an ambitious anatomising of the soul of Sixties Britain. The critic and novelist D.J. Taylor, in *A Vain Conceit*, tut-tutted over the lack of socially prescriptive novels, then supplied his own earlier this year in *English Settlement*.

But is the genre such an attractive prospect? The trouble with condition-of-England novels is that, of their nature, they can't accept pluralism, the inconsistencies of diversity. Contemporary writers who, from an understandable aversion to post-Thatcherism, create admonitory fictive metaphors for England, should attend to the dangers of the genre: imaginative totalitarianism, personal prejudice masquerading as beneficial blueprint. Forster is by no means the only guilty party in this tradition.

Splendour in the grass: E M Forster thought only the "close to nature" classes deserved to inherit England. Maggie Smith (left) and Judy Dench in the Merchant/Ivory production of 'A Room with a View" The Kobal Collection

"Curiously, I like England again now"; "I know that we could, if we would, establish little by little a true democracy in England" These are from the letters of D.H. Lawrence when at work on the first versions of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, the true subject of which, appearances and notoriety to the contrary, is the regeneration of England. *Lady Chatterley* is a far richer and more thoroughly imagined novel than it's usually given credit for being, but the author cannot keep his prejudices at bay, cannot resist elevating them until they seem indispensable for a nation's health. Woe unto England, he says, if you are a writer; all writers, from Sir Clifford Chatterley, that *de facto* member of the Sitwell family, downwards, are effete, attention-seeking and money-grubbing. There's only one writer England can do with, Lawrence suggests – the invisible but by no means inaudible yours truly. Woe unto England, on the other hand, if you shift your interests to the technical and scientific, as Sir Clifford does. "(It was) as if really the devil himself had lent fiend's wits to the technical scientists of industry...these self-made men were of a mental age of about 13, feeble boys." Whereas Forster admitted women with reluctance into his ideal England, with Lawrence it's the other way about: almost any man who doesn't emanate from his unconscious becomes an enemy sooner or later.

In many ways Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited* is a mirror-reflection of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, each book born of its author's perceptions of the death of England after a major war and of his hopes for its rebirth. Both novels start socially at the top, but in the case of the later novel, the top is where it wants to stay, especially as the great family, whom the post-war country has (partially) shorn of its glory, has the additional merit of having held on, century after century, to the Old Faith. Whereas the Chatterleys can be rejuvenated by a soldier promoted to lieutenant but now a gamekeeper, the admirer of the Marchmains has to confront the young officer Hooper, who becomes a symbol to him "of Young England...I sometimes pondered 'Hooper Rallies', 'Hooper Hostels'. 'International Hooper Co-operation' and 'the Religion of Hooper'. He was the acid test of these alloys." Hooper has a flat Midlands accent, has his hair combed back without a parting and wears woollen gloves. He's "no romantic", has never "as a child ridden with Rupert's horse". You can see what a come-down it is for the narrator to find himself in a society where such an individual is dominant, when you recall the kind of talk he was used to when hob-nobbing with the great and good-looking – like this, between himself and the young Lord Sebastian: "It is a little, shy wine like a gazelle." "Like a leprechaun." "Dappled, in a tapestry meadow." "Like a flute by still water." It is a strange feature of post-war England that it has taken to its heart a vision that suggests England can be redeemed by long-lineaged multi-millionaires uninterested in anybody beyond their social circle but keeping the flame of Catholicism alight in rococo chapels into which they admit the odd pious nanny or family servant.

There are, however, novels to which our present condition-of-Englanders might look which lack the crypto-Fascist exclusiveness predominant in the genre. William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* is far more satisfactory as a survey of England after the war than as a parable of Nazism or original sin. The representative of traditional English values, Ralph is shown as inadequate to the chaos he has to face, yet he is also good, decent, feeling. At the close, he is able to grieve for the dead asthmatic, embryonic scientist Piggy, for the vivid, imaginative Simon, for all the less remarkable boys who went under. This is the kind of inclusive charity our riven society needs, not the authoritarianism that comes from the writer's conviction of his own superiority.

Swann's Way to Salford and Failsworth

Edward Pearce thinks a memoir of growing up in Manchester is perhaps a tiny bit precieux . . .

Manchester Pieces

by Paul Driver

Picador, £15.99

In the part of Salford where I grew up it was always either Light Oaks Park or Oakwood Park, quite distinct in character though separated by only a few hundred yards, and forming a fundamental dualism in my mind, my homely version of Proust's archetypal choice between Swann's and the Guermantes' ways. Broadly, Light Oaks Park was maternal, Oakwood the opposite."

This is classic bad writing in the most approved, up-to-date style. It hits us on the head with allusions. Proust makes a good short cosh, but "Proust's archetypal choice", incorporating a Jungian buzz, is sensational. We are wowed by "fundamental dualism" before male and female elements are mutually opposed, exactly as psychiatry has taught chatterers to chat. Finally he grovels: "My homely version of Proust's archetypal choice". We talk Proust you see, but we're not proud.

Four bits of nicely-polished one-upmanship and a deft little cringe, all in under 60 words, will scare the bookies, but such archness in an account of *Manchester* is something else. I don't think they reckon much to fundamental dualism in Failsworth...

There is merit in *Manchester Pieces*, the merit of intelligence and sensitivity. Mr Driver has put together a clutch of essays and essayettes to convey personal autobiography – being a child among aunts and uncles, finding a talent for music (much the best thing in the book) and random accounts of great men seen fleetingly (Barbirolli, Anthony Burgess) or thought about portentously (Thomas De Quincy). The whole wispy ensemble is linked by the single theme of having something to do with Manchester.

Where Mr Driver stays with the family – Grandma seen through admiring childish eyes and resentful adult ones, Uncle Dick with his obsessions and dedicated immobility – he keeps up interest and attraction. When he talks about violin practice, grasping the point of *vibrato* and breaking through to a world of youth orchestras, he is talking as a decent technician lapped with unaffected enthusiasms. But when he goes literary, he goes phoney. Take his introductory fanfare:

"Inasmuch as the names of cities mean anything Manchester is a city a breast-like hill Mamucium a Roman breast later Manigeceastre Mamecestre a Norman breast and even eventually Madchester which is more like city built on a tilt a city of nightclub obsession pop music ecstasy crack the latest thing for Manchester has been doing many things though during the Middle Ages it was pretty much nothing marking time nicely with a flourishing trade in wool." And so on for 2500 words, without full stop, comma or apostrophe, of cod Molly Bloom spattered with psychiatrist's smut.

The worst of *Manchester Pieces* wears its knowingness like a T-shirt and has damn-all to do with Manchester. The best, in "Avatars of Genius" records him trying to keep up with John Clayton, a more dazzling music student, getting sniffy about Shostakovich for being too conservative and, at Oxford, being touchingly stricken with disbelief in the musical talent which had buoyed him up for seven years and brought him there. It is fine, endearing and real. But in "Parks in Parenthesis", he strikes up with that archetypal witterer, John Berger and says "A park is partly a field and a field is what? What defines a field – or a forest: the fence that bounds it or something more integral, more conceptual?"

The difficulty is that the author's style – Arts Council-ingratiating – does not fit his subject. There is an historic Manchester of riots and night schools, native Wesleyanism and immigrant Catholicism, the Jews and the Germans and their music and science – the Manchester which Engels lit upon and the *Manchester Guardian* before it went south.

Although it would sustain a fascinating book, one doesn't require Mr Driver to write about it. But neither was there a need, under Manchester colours, to drift self-consciously through a gauze jungle of interesting reminiscence and abominable affectation.

Who's reading whom

Jonathan Miller reflects on the evolution of social structures and the need to talk

Robin Dunbar's *Grooming, Gossip and the Evolution of Language* (Faber) is near the top of my reading pile at the moment for its coherent study of how social systems evolved on a sub-structure of awareness and trust. With both primates and men, the ability to distinguish and remember other individuals led to the development of complex social behaviour: the awareness of favours given, or owed, the bearing of grudges, the sustaining of trust. In humans, such consciousness underpinned the explosive development of the brain, leading finally to the development of language as a means of expressing and receiving increasingly subtle emotions – and, of course, gossip.

Whelk fritters and salt cod (but hold the boiled umbilical cord)

Christopher Hirst is both intrigued and tantalised by an English cookery classic

Food in England

by Dorothy Hartley

Little, Brown, £22.50

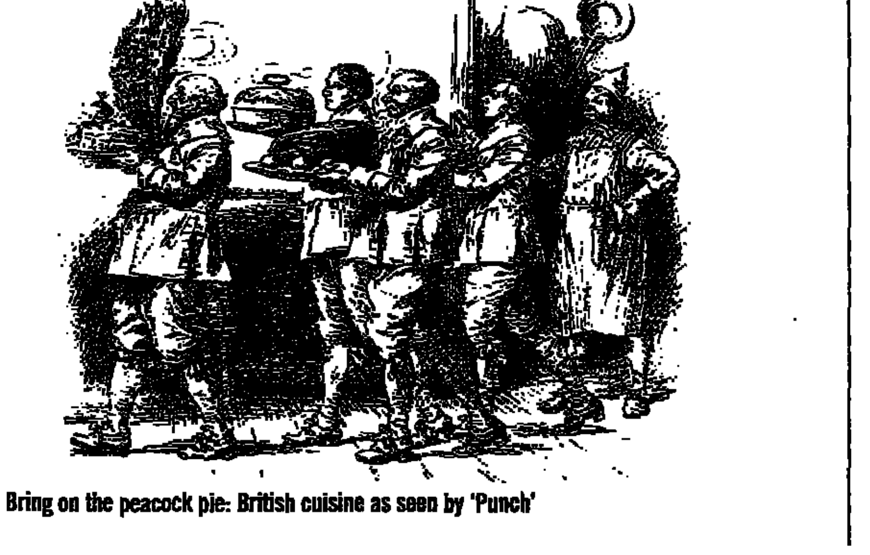
Whether you'll do much cooking from it is debatable, but this classic work from 1954 will certainly become one of the best-thumbed on your kitchen bookshelf. Written from the heart by one of our leading social historians, it is a tremendous hodge-podge of a book rather along the lines of an old-fashioned almanac. Rambling, chatty, sensible, impressively learned and occasionally passionate, it makes only the most reluctant and rudimentary concessions to structure. A dozen consecutive pages includes a list of 16th century garden herbs, a potted history of the East India Company, an account of how tables were laid over the centuries, and a contemporary critique of 19th-century coaching inns ("Crown, Rotherham: Very disagreeable and dirty. Hashed venison, potted mackerel, cold ham, cheese and melon. 1/-.")

Hartley reveals that, prior to this century, English cuisine equalled, or even surpassed, that of France. Scattered among her pages, Hartley includes – to take just a few examples – authoritative surveys of pig breeds, fungi, pastry shapes, seaweed, snails and types of bread. (She notes that the west country Sally Lunn bun, gold on top and white below, derives from the local pronunciation of "soleil-lune".) For all our insularity, we have always had a taste for the exotic. Soy sauce was *le dernier cri* in the 18th century, when sailors used to bring the condiment home as a souvenir of the fashionable Orient.

Hartley's concern for the welfare of the creatures we eat is wholly appropriate for a book about food in England. Though noting that hedgehog tastes like "very tender chicken", she italicises her demand, particularly applicable to motorists, that "*No one should harm a hedgehog.*" It is, however, doubtful if many modern readers will follow her dictum that "intelligent women will refuse to buy rabbit, hare or any game that has been cut up so that the method of killing is disguised".

Similarly, it seems doubtful that there will be a host of enthusiasts for muggety pie (boiled calf's umbilical cord), roast swan ("moderately hot oven, two-three hours") or lamb's tail pie ("instruct the shepherd to keep the docked tails warm"). But I was tempted by whelk fritters and would be willing to sample steamed baby bracken. Salt cod with parsnips could happily appear on the menu in London's most fashionable eateries and the same goes for lamb chop cooked in paper. A "delightfully uncommon" ice-cream made with fresh brown breadcrumbs and covered in crystallised violets sounds wonderful.

The greatest appeal of *Food in England*, however, lies in its fabulous accumulation of recondite information. For all I know, it may be common knowledge that "tenterhooks" were devices for stretching washing when it was put out to dry, so obviating the need for ironing, but did you know that it was a Hogmanay custom in Glasgow to slip a red herring ("a super-salted bloater") into a friend's palm when shaking hands?


Bring on the peacock pie: British cuisine as seen by 'Punch'

Strokes of genius on the battlefield

Godfrey Hodgson marvels at the strategic panache of an American general

Old Soldiers Never Die: The Life of Douglas MacArthur by Geoffrey Perret, Deutsch, £20

He was not, it has to be said, the most lovable of men. He was pompous, vain, arrogant, at times almost comic in his self-regard and his utter unawareness of what the world thought of him. He was envious, quarrelsome, self-absorbed.

He invented an absurd uniform for himself, with scruffy overalls and an aviator's jacket, topped by Ray-ban sunglasses, a corncob pipe and a floppy cap with the insignia of a field-marshal in the army of the Philippines where he had gone as a sort of mercenary proconsul after being virtually sacked as chief of staff of the American army. He was obsessed with military glory, and perfectly prepared to lobby for medals for himself that were normally awarded to men who had risked their lives in action.

As chief of staff he led the troops who dispersed the "bonus marchers" – unemployed ex-soldiers who were asking to be paid $1000 apiece, the amount they were owed by the government – with the flat of their sabres, though Perret demolishes the myth of MacArthur the "man on the white horse". Yet he did help himself to half a million dollars in commission on the munitions he bought for the Philippine government.

President Roosevelt (a remote cousin) was amused by him. President Truman openly detested him. President Eisenhower (a military protégé) came to despise him. The Navy mocked him – most unfairly – as "dugout Doug". And yet, what a life! What a career! What a man!

Douglas MacArthur's whole life, as Geoffrey Perret points out in this carefully researched, perceptively written biography, was lived within the lines of the United States army. He was born in a barracks in Little Rock, Arkansas, and died in the army's Walter Reed hospital in the Washington suburbs. His father led the 24th Wisconsin, flag in hand, up Missionary Ridge at the battle of Chickamauga in the Civil War and lived to be the conqueror of America's empire in the Philippines and later a Federal judge.

Douglas outdid his father in military glory: decorated for bravery in France in 1918, superintendent of the military academy at West Point, head of the army, a five-star general and eventual winner of the congressional Medal of Honor he had coveted all his life.

As a soldier, he tasted the splendours and the miseries of military life to an extraordinary degree. When, thanks largely to his own complacency, the Japanese overran the Philippines, he was forced, with his wife and son, to flee to the rock of Corregidor in Manila Harbour while his troops were locked up in the Bataan Peninsular. Obeying orders that were exquisitely painful for a man who had been called the "D'Artagnan of the army", he escaped to Australia, leaving his command to the mercies of Japanese prisoner of war camps and the Bataan death march. "I will return", he promised, and with characteristic style he did return. Of course, there was a photographer on hand as he splashed through the shallows at the head of his soldiers as they invaded the Philippines.

Stormin' Douglas: The fortunately un-camera-shy General MacArthur wades ashore at the head of his troops to begin the invasion of the Philippines

But, for all the bombast, MacArthur really was a superb commander – arguably, Perret says, the only military genius America has produced except for Ulysses S. Grant. Some would quarrel with that judgement, saying that Grant's victories owed more to superiority of means, effectively deployed, than to military genius but MacArthur was a superb fighting commander, an inspirational leader of troops and one of the bravest of the brave as he proved when he stormed the Côte de Châtillon in 1918. Like many professional soldiers, he seemed to lose his grip in the inter-war years, and it was perhaps the humiliation of the flight from Corregidor that brought out his best fighting qualities again.

As Perret rightly suggests, the thing the American armed forces did best in World War II was to co-ordinate ground troops, air and naval forces in bold combined operations. MacArthur pioneered this new kind of warfare in the South Pacific theatre and, on his return to the Philippines, demonstrated his larger strategic grasp, catching the Japanese between his landing in Leyte Gulf on the eastern coast of the islands and his landing on the beaches north of Manila.

His military apotheosis, though, had to wait until his last and, in some respects, his most inglorious campaign. MacArthur must take some of the blame for the initial disaster of the Korea war when the North Koreans came close to wiping out the South Korean army and its American stiffening. Then, with an imaginative swoop no other American commander of his generation except George Patton would have dared to make, he won the battle of Inchon, turning the enemy's flank with a giant left hook. It was a stroke of genius, one of the classic battles of military history.

Three months later, he had blown it again. Ignoring specific orders in his usual lofty way he provoked the Chinese into invading Korea. He had truly snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, and the consequences are with us still: a divided Korea and a farouche pariah state armed with nuclear weapons in Pyongyang.

MacArthur's greatest achievement was as the "supreme allied commander" in conquered Japan. By the time he strode unannounced into the Tokyo Press Club on March 27, 1947, he could fairly claim that the foundations of a stable, democratic Japan had been laid. His tact, as well as his flamboyant confidence, had a lot to do with it.

Perret points out, however, that in Japan MacArthur closely followed the orders he was sent by the Joint Chiefs. "It suited MacArthur's vanity to appear that he was in control," Perret comments, "but most of the time he was only carrying out instructions like an Army officer."

That is a valuable correction of the legend, but this is not a debunking book. It is a worthy history of a soldier of genius, a physically courageous man who devoted his life to what now seems to many an obsolete, even a slightly crazy belief that "The soldier who is called upon to offer and give his life for his country is the noblest development of mankind". There was a time when we were glad of those who could act upon that belief.

All you need to know about the books you meant to read

by Gavin Griffiths

THE RED AND THE BLACK
by Stendhal (1830)

Plot: Julien Sorel hustles through the story with breathless energy. A carpenter's son cursed with intelligence and ambition, he longs to become a mini-Napoleon and conquer society. Growing up during the stuffy period of the French Restoration (1814-1830), he is scared of festering in the provincialism of his home town, Verrières. Impressed by Sorel's Latin, the mayor M Rênal hires the eager hypocrite to teach his children. Mme Rènal, a sensuous prig, is attracted to the new tutor. The couple creep towards mutual seduction and, eventually, Mme Rénal becomes Sorel's first territorial conquest. Sorel leaves for the seminary at Besançon: he now seeks power through the church. He dazzles the authorities and is whisked off to Paris, becoming secretary to the Marquis de la Mole. Paris proves a let down. Sorel's boredom begins to attract the interest of the Marquis's supra-romantic daughter Mathilde. The snobby Marquis is horrified. Sorel is promised a title and shoved into the army. Nevertheless the pair are to be married to protect Mathilde's reputation. Mme Rênal sends a letter to the Marquis denouncing Sorel as a fortune-hunting rake. Furious, he decides to murder Mme Rènal. While she is at Mass, he shoots her but misses. He is taken to prison and executed. Mme Rénal dies three days later, heartbroken. Mathilde gets hold of Sorel's head and honours it with a sculptured grotto.

Theme: Stendhal challenges prevailing moral codes. Sorel is an ambiguous mixture: he is snobbish, vain, naive but also analytical, perceptive and burning with imagination. Human personality is shot through with contradiction as virtues and vices are presented as inseparable. Sorel's panache is set against the Restoration society which is glutinous with materialism and formality: the ascending bourgeoisie are no better than the arthritic aristocracy.

Style: Economical, dry. Stendhal claimed his prose model was the civil code. "One should not write unless one has important things to say, but then one must say them with the utmost simplicity...trying to get them by unnoticed."

Chief strengths: The novel quivers with nervy excitement. Written at white heat, the story seems capable of charging off in any direction. Yet all is controlled by the narrator's teasing, petulant and downright comic interjections.

Chief weaknesses: Dedicated to the "happy few" who would eventually understand it, the novel can become a self-referential game that revels in exclusivity.

What they thought of it then: Stendhal was seen as a cynical despoiler, believing in nothing but the slick paradox. Victor Hugo likened reading *The Red and the Black* to having teeth pulled. Henry James condemned its "air of unredeemed corruption".

What we think of it now: No aspect of the work remains unmolested. Even the mysterious title provokes monographs.

Responsible for: By creating the first "authentic" (as opposed to "sincere") hero, Stendhal becomes proto-existentialist. Sorel is a forerunner of those drearily self absorbed figures who haunt the novels of Camus and Sartre.

The end of the Roman Empire (100 years late)

Mary Beard encounters an odd literary phenomenon – the modern publication of a 19th-century classic

A History of Rome under the Emperors

by Theodor Mommsen

Routledge, £40

Theodor Mommsen is the only historian ever to have won the Nobel Prize for Literature. Radical politician as much as pedantic polymath, popularising journalist as much as retiring academic, his multi-volume *History of Rome* started to appear in the 1850s and was one of the international publishing successes of the late-19th century. Running into 16 editions, and almost instantly translated from the original German into Italian, Russian, English, French, Polish, Hungarian and Spanish, it outstripped even such other contemporary classics as Frazer's *The Golden Bough*.

Yet it was never finished. Volumes One to Three appeared quickly within the space of a few years, covering Rome's history during the so-called "Republic" – a period of constitutional government under the Senate and elected magistrates – that Mommsen enthusiastically saw as a model for the new nation-states of Europe; Volume Five followed 30 years, later (a much drier history of the various provinces of the Roman empire). Volume Four, which was to cover Rome under the emperors, after the tyranny and assassination of Julius Caesar, never appeared. There was no doubt what Mommsen thought of this period: he repeatedly referred to it in his writing as a "deeply degenerate age" of "leaden tedium" destroyed by "inner putresence".

In 1980, however, a young German historian walked into a second-hand bookshop in Nuremberg, and came across a pile of old notebooks. These turned out to contain students' notes from Mommsen's courses on the history of the Roman empire in the 1880s – the closest thing, as their discoverer instantly realised, that we would ever get to the missing Volume Four. Edited into connected prose, they were published in Germany in 1992 to front-page headlines and they are now translated into English.

The serendipity of this whole story is astonishing: the chances that (even in well-educated Nuremberg) the books would have been spotted by someone who actually recognised what they were are almost too small to contemplate. But the more hard-headed response must ask whether the final published version lives up to its promise.

There are indeed some engagingly iconoclastic soundbites buried here. Mommsen was a notoriously outspoken oddball – in his academic life as much as in his modern politics (his remarks on Gladstone's Irish legislation, for example, were said to be unprintable). By the 1880s he already had an established reputation as the greatest defender of Roman history and culture in a Germany that was still enthralled by Hellenism. His audience was presumably meant to be amused, as well as shocked, when they heard him dismissing Rome's national poet Virgil as a "sorry comparison" with the Greek Homer, chastising the central episode of his *Aeneid*, as "a vulgar erotic motif" and lamenting that the whole poem was not burnt on Virgil's death. But such passages are, within a rather dreary historical narrative, few and far between.

The editors do a valiant job in their introduction, trying to catch something of the spirit of this extraordinary man: a parodic workaholic, who was once found at seven in the morning outside the Bodleian in Oxford, complaining that the library was not open till nine: a committed citizen, who was for years a member of the Prussian Parliament: a prolific Roman historian, who singlehandedly rediscovered (though some would now say, more critically, "invented") the whole legal basis of the ancient Roman constitution. All the same, to re-read these lectures on the history of the Roman empire inevitably prompts the suspicion that, for all his promises, his failure to produce Volume Four was a calculated (and wise) decision. For once, perhaps, he didn't have much he wanted to say.

Male bonding on the info-tech exchange

Harry Pearson knows a 130+ grain copper clad slug from a Colt .38 when he sees one

Henry James once said that, from no more than an overheard snatch of conversation between two soldiers, a writer should be able to produce a novel about the army. It is a safe bet that Henry James would not cut it in the world of modern thriller writing. The core thriller audience is male, so hard facts along with hard muscle are essential components. The idea that they are involving themselves in a world someone has simply made up is abhorrent to many men: the stuff of fiction is deception and no man likes to think of himself as easily fooled. As a consequence the considerable imagination which goes into creating the modern thriller comes concealed beneath a camoulflage net of information.

While many early thriller writers such as Erskine Childers and William Le Queux worked for the secret service, the turning point in the history of the genre surely came with the arrival of Frederick Forsyth, the first black belt in the martial art of research. Post-*Day of the Jackal* authentic inside knowledge – or at least the appearance of it – became integral to success. As a result, establishing early credibility is the key for the modern thriller writer. Jacket blurb and acknowledgements are front-line weaponry in the battle for the heart and mind of the reader.

As a former BBC defence correspondent, Mark Urban clearly has a march on his rivals here. As the jacket points out (twice), his journalistic work has given him an "unique insight" into the world of espionage. It has also given him an unique grasp of acronyms. Of the chief protagonists in **The Illegal** (Headline, £16.99) one, Denton, works for K2 section of K Branch at GWS a couple of floors down from the DG and the DDG (A), while the other, Johnson, is a DS in the CID who doesn't have much time for SO19 or the ACPO, though he does nurse a sneaky fondness for UB–40. It would be tempting to dismiss this as a load of BS, if only for a cheap laugh, but a B+ would be nearer the mark. The plot of *The Illegal* revolves around the past coming back and haunting people and Urban steers his characters through it with a deal of panache and a good eye for the contrast between the laddish world of the police and the starchy yet more lethal one of the Intelligence Service.

Like Mark Urban, Stephen Hunter, American author of **Black Light** (Century, £15.99), is a journalist. Unfortunately for him he is a film critic. This does not give him an unique insight into anything much except, presumably, the going rate for a Wenger's hot-dog. Hunter uses his acknowledgements to give his fiction a factual buttress and a skilful job he makes of it too, cunningly luring the reader into an ambush that leaves him unsure whether what he is about to read is a novel or a 1990s version of *In Cold Blood*.

Hunter has done research, too – most of it on guns. But where Urban has initials, Hunter has figures. His hero, ex-Marine Corps sniper Bob Lee Swagger, has a bad hip caused by "a 148-grain 7.62 x 54 full-metal-jacketed bullet launched at over 2,600 feet per second." Bob's father, Earl, an Arkansas cop, was killed when Bob was a boy by a couple of 130+ grain copper clad slugs from a Colt.38 Super Government Model (travelling speed unknown, but quicker than a 2CV heading down a 1-in-3 is my guess) and – hey, wait a minute, isn't that a .3115 bevelled entry wound in Pa's sternum? And what's that hovering over in the corner of the stableyard? Well, damn if it ain't the past coming on all spooky again.

There are a few false notes in *Black Light*, some large chunks of information about silencers and night-sights drop into the dialogue with hollow thuds, and Swagger's daughter Nicki is so unbearably cute that anyone not blessed with the iron self-restraint of a trained man-hunter would surely have brained her with a lug-wrench long before her fourth birthday, but the action scenes are good enough to blast through such obstacles and leave you sitting up way past lights-out trying to figure who killed Earl Swagger and why.

Bostonian crime writer Robert B. Parker long ago reached that enviable moment in a writer's life when the size of his name on the dust jacket swells to ten times that of the title. With a string of best-sellers to his name he hardly needs to establish his *bona fides*. Like the old pro he is, though, he keeps working at it, appearing in his author photo wearing shades, leather jacket and baseball cap and accompanied by a large German dog. Parker is usually described as working within the tradition of Raymond Chandler and Ross Macdonald. His private eye, Spenser, is full of wisecracks and funny, sour observations on his fellow citizens and there is something oddly old-fashioned about the world he inhabits. In the end reading **Chance** (Viking, £16) is rather like listening to a Dixieland Jazz Band: it's good fun, but every so often you get the uneasy feeling that elsewhere life is moving on.

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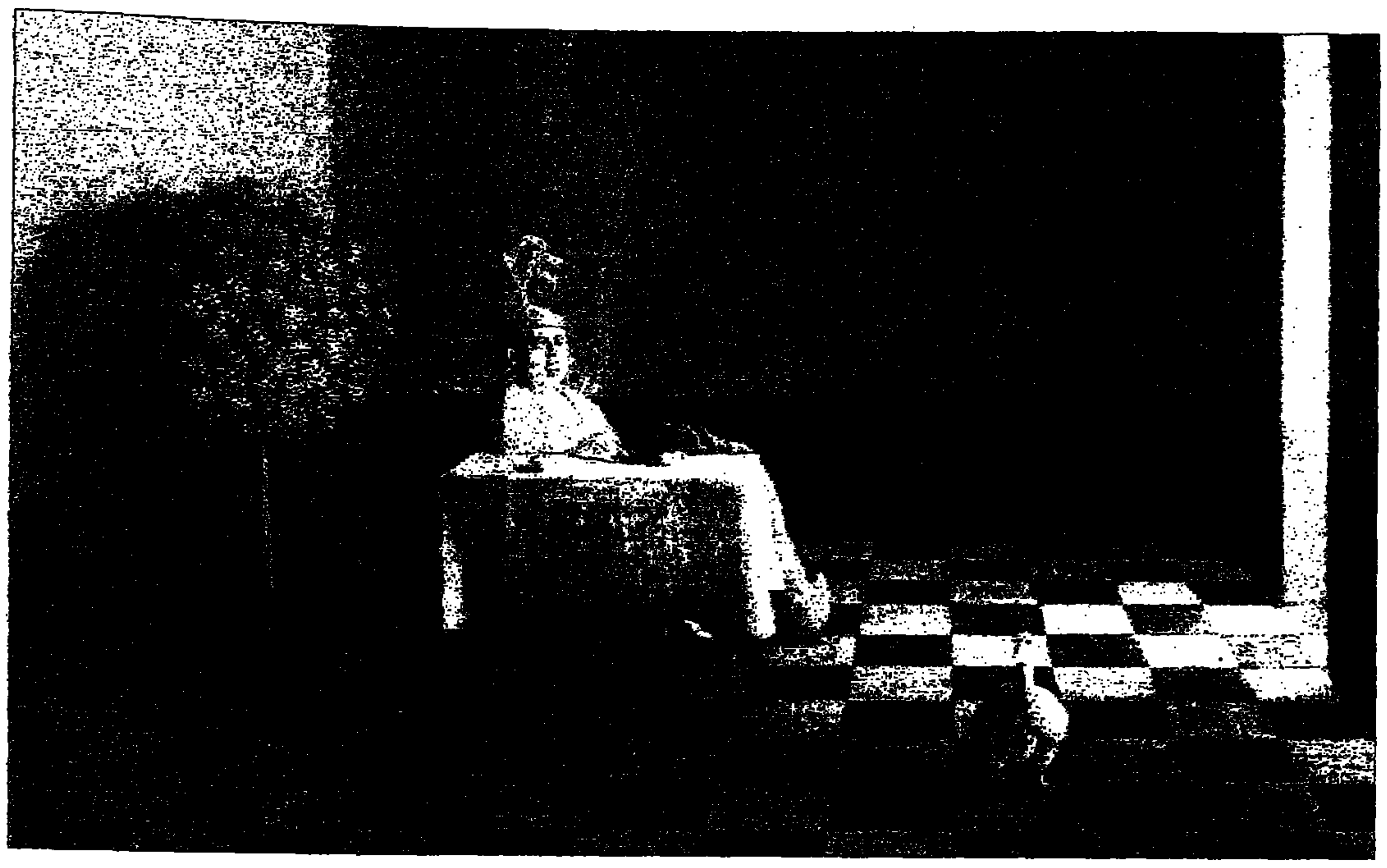


Why this oddly unsettling study of a chic *mittel-european* lady with bored dog, *malevolent* duck and slice of lemon, should be called "The last hours of Pompei" is anyone's guess. But then most of Michael Sowa's images collected in *Sowa's Ark: An Enchanted Bestiary* (Thames & Hudson, £12.95) defy explanation: the eager pig pulling a human baby-carriage through a midsummer night, the lonesome bunny in *Rabbit on a rainy street*, the vase of pink *flamingoes*. Their mysterious lives are tantalisingly *hinted* at in Sowa's magically subdued style, *perfectly pitched* between Gary Larson and Edward Hopper.

Creaky bedsprings and a saxophonist's dream

Christopher Hawtree applauds a robust collection of short stories

Four Last Things

by William Palmer

Secker, £12.99

Three strikes and you're out. Severe as the Californian criminal code has become, it pales beside the English publishing industry. Such is the current sway of the marketing department, with W. H. Smith figures at the ready, that any novelist who does not promptly hit pay-dirt has little hope of longevity. Under *such a system*, *Graham* Greene, Christopher Isherwood and Graham Swift might now be known only to those readers *with a taste for the* byways of literature.

It is heartening, then, that William Palmer has not only been able to buck the trend but follows three less-than-megaselling novels with a volume of stories. From an account of murderous intrigue in the Baltic states to a variation upon Leporello's story, Palmer's novels reverberate way beyond the Sutton Coldfield to which he remains loyal.

There is a *similar* variety to this collection, even within the eponymous, 100-page opening *item. Cornelius Marten, the elderly,* now-obscure and blocked author of a novel-sequence, is to be visited by a dreary thesis-writer. *For this* grim prospect Marten blames his wife. In the event, the graduate is accompanied by a comely girlfriend.

The sound of their bedsprings prompts Marten to deliver himself of reminiscences – "of simpler, infinitely more complicated things" – into the proffered tape-recorder. These begin with a stern father and disillusioned first love in Europe during the Thirties before exile in wartime Cambridge and an emerging pattern of disappointment which fuels the fiction as it drains the life.

Precisely located and elusive, sympathetic and repellent, it all reaches a strange, incandescent climax, a technique which is echoed in many of the subsequent stories. Just when one thought that young fogies had vanished, up pops Professor Cox out in Venice to *deliver a lecture and* "*especially proud of the* outfit he was wearing. The fawn suit, and cream-coloured waistcoat embroidered with *tiny red flowers. The yellow silk* cravat...*All* that was now needed was a silver-topped cane." He, a man whose wife has at last cajoled him into wearing only the trousers of his pyjamas in summer, now finds that an afternoon's stroll brings the ghostly presence of Corvo and Byron – in a short space his future becomes rather less settled than that taste in clothes might have led him to believe.

Sexual insecurity and violent yearnings run through the collection, whether in dreaming of an aunt, an account of an uncle being pulverised at the narrator's eventual wedding or the story of a young office worker's stag night which ends up at the house of a colleague whose supply of pornography is as diverse as his taste in jazz – a subject which resurfaces in "Performance, Performance" *which, brief as it is, somehow encapsulates* both the doomed hopes of a club owner and the lifelong devotion of a saxophonist to his *music. Jazz* all too often makes for smoky cliché; Palmer's skill is to realise that only a restrained prose can bring it alive – these six pages are probably the best in the book.

The strength of these robustly elliptical stories is that, in other hands, they might have been stretched into novels, even into adequate novels but certainly not as haunting. The only shame is that the publishers, in slapping such a price upon this paperback original, will enrage the W.H. Smith computer.

Infertility rites

Michael Arditti on a sensitive tale of childlessness

A Tribal Fever by David Sweetman, Deutsch, £15.99

Infertility leads to strange bedfellows, as the recent alliance between would-be adopters and extreme pro-Life groups to halt the destruction of frozen embryos has shown. The pain of childless couples and the desperate measures to which they resort is the subject of David Sweetman's timely first novel.

Martin and Alice are well-to-do Manchester teachers who have everything in their lives but children. Humiliating fertility treatments and the *demands of making love to* order have all but destroyed their feelings for each other. Their *professional* lives have also suffered: Alice has given up her job in a *doomed attempt to boost* their adoption credentials, while Martin lusts after his girl pupils. Everything, even new-style supermarket trolleys with their baby-compartments, seems designed to remind them of their plight.

Help is at hand in the dubious form of Les Enfants du Monde, a private adoption agency which holds out the prospect of a baby in Africa. Alice is keen to make the journey without delay and Martin's doubts are tempered by a romantic obsession with the continent that dates from childhood. They set off, but *from the* moment of touchdown at Mali airport where the *guards are violent, the* customs officers venal and a fellow-tourist fatally injured, the dream turns into the inevitable nightmare.

It is clear that neither Alice nor Martin has given any thought to Africa other than as a giant womb engendering babies and fantasies. Sweetman, on the other hand, builds up a potent picture of torpor and corruption –the luxury hotel beyond which foreign guests are not encouraged to stray, the educated Africanélite with their Western values, the European expatriates abusing the system...

The heart of the book is the journey to Timbuktu that Martin and Alice make in search of their promised child, a journey which provides a testing ground for the couple's certainties. Martin has to confront his sexual nature as he falls for *their young male* guide and Alice is made to question her need for a baby at the *bedside of its dying mother.*

Sweetman's descriptive writing is at its best in these *passages and his handling of* the narrative is masterly. Elsewhere, the story carries *less resonance than it might*, because the author seems determined to maintain the pace at the expense of either addressing the moral issues or developing his central characters (*Alice*, in particular, remains a one-dimensional obsessive). Most damaging is the flatness of the language which rarely rises to the demands of the theme.

As befits a distinguished biographer, Sweetman writes with historical precision. The novel is set in 1981, the year of the Windsor-Spencer wedding, a story that provides a *constant counterpart to the* central action. More poignantly, the unexplained *diseases that are afflicting* the babies in refugee camps have no need of explanation fifteen years later, when the reader is all too familiar with the ravages of Aids. Martin and Alice's successors may have made the easier journey to the orphanages of Eastern Europe, but the need remains for a code of ethics that is not just a branch of pragmatics.

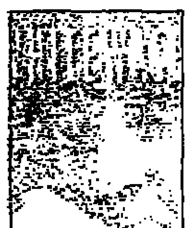
Paperbacks

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst

MARTIN BELL
IN HARM'S WAY

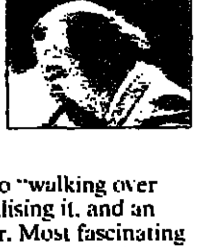
In Harm's Way by Martin Bell (Penguin, £6.99) With a modesty which characterises these "reflections on a war-zone thug", Martin Bell declares "this is my first and probably only book". A single sentence explains why he felt the urge to *explore his feelings* about Bosnia: "Old BBC reporting habits of distance and detachment were early and *instant* casualties." Unlike many profoundly moved by war, Bell has retained his sense of humour. Angered by the *inability of home* base to recognise his name ("This is Martin in Vitez." "Martin who?"), he wryly notes "there *was hardly enough* good news here for Martyn Lewis."

The Foul and the Fragrant by Alain Corbin (Papermac, £12) One of the most unusual history books ever published, this is a study of smell in the 18th and 19th centuries. For a French academic, Corbin's writing is remarkably free of opaque abstraction and packed with lively detail. In the 1700s, we learn, there was a "long-lived fashion for animal perfumes with the odour of excrement". Corbin explores contemporary views on pongs, efforts to clear up urban stenches, the blooming scent industry (Worth and Guerlain were active in the 1860s) and how many great writers had an olfactory obsession – even Zola, who had a poor sense of smell.



Whitewash: Pablo Escobar by Simon Strong (Pan, £6.99) Though the basic facts about the unlamented cocaine boss are well known, they continue to amaze: his Noah-like zoo of exotic species (their ordure was useful for masking coke); *his art collection*, including a Van Gogh; his penchant for murder, which extended, at least putatively, to the US President. In this absorbing, but relentlessly gory *investigation*, Strong piles on the detail. There is a distasteful *UK* involvement. We were distantly concerned with supplying massive quantities of solvent. More directly, most mercenaries who worked for the drug cartels were British.

Palimpsest: A Memoir by Gore Vidal (Abacus, £9.99) Garbo wore his clothes, Bobby Kennedy hated his guts, Princess Margaret was an *unexpected heroine* ("far too bright for her station in life") – Vidal knew everyone and remembers everything. *Like Anne Fleming, he was brave* enough to bang Waugh's ear-trumpet. This great rolling tide of a memoir, *oscillating seamlessly between now* and then (up to 1964), is wonderful entertainment. An occasional *campness of expression is more than* compensated by Vidal's incomaprable wit. Unexpectedly, he is also deeply moving, particularly about *the death* of an early love at Iwo Jima.

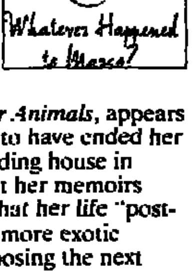


Power Play by Stephen Fay (Coronet, £7.99) A surprisingly entertaining biography of *Sir Peter Hall*, the man who spent the Sixties and Seventies changing the face of British theatre, and the Eighties trying to earn enough cash to support a growing tribe of children and glamorous ex-wives. More loathed than loved, Hall admits to "walking over people" without realising it, and an innate love of power. Most fascinating of all are Stephen Fay's descriptions of the impresario's childhood years in Suffolk, and the awesome consequences of too much mother-love.

BILL
BRYSON

Notes from a Small Island by Bill Bryson (Black Swan, £6.99) Nobody *takes poorly planned holidays in the* world's dingiest places with the vigour and wit of Bill Bryson, so it's a wonder he's taken so long getting around to his former adopted home of Britain. As usual, everywhere he goes it's raining, the shop-fronts are dismal and the pizzas terrible. Less intense than *The Lost Continent*, this book features kindly and acute reflections on what it means to be British – in Bryson's view the happiest people on earth. A casual, sentimental journey around an island that likes its pleasures small, and its puddings, as he charmingly describes *them*, "cautiously flavourful".

A Scandalous Life by Mary S. Lovell (Fourth Estate, £8.99) Mary Lovell's *latest biography tells the intriguing* life of the free-spirited, sexually liberated 19th century beauty Jane *Digby. Following a much publicised* divorce in the 1830s, when she ran off to the continent to join her German *princeling lover, Digby entertained* herself with a Bavarian king, an Albanian brigand and a Greek count. *Finally living in Damascus and* married to a Bedouin 20 years her junior, she was still worrying about *getting lucky at the age of 70*.



Whatever happened to Margo? by Margaret Durrell (Warner, £5.99). Gerald Durrell's energetic and long-suffereing elder sister, who featured so prominently in *My Family and Other Animals*, appears by her own account to have ended her days running a boarding house in Bournemouth. What her memoirs omit to mention is that her life "post-Greece" saw rather more exotic adventures than choosing the next lodger. She spent the war in Corfu disguised as a native, travelled extensively in Africa, and in later years took a job as a mariner on a Greek cruise liner. An endearing portrait of post-war suburbia, but one that sells its author short.

A literary feast in Devon

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Swoony perfume and a sunny disposition

Reliably hardy: the old-fashioned *Jasminum officinale* Photograph: Mel Watson

Jasmine grows vigorously but can be difficult to keep in confined spaces. Anna Pavord suggests some other candidates for the pot

Evelyn Macpherson of Southampton is looking for a shrub or small tree that would be happy in a 15in glazed earthenware pot on a baking hot, south-facing patio. "Would it be possible to grow the type of jasmine which one sees on Mediterranean holidays?" she asks. "Small, white flowers and a wonderful perfume. If so, which jasmine is it and what soil mix would suit it? Failing this, could you suggest anything else? I already have a fig tree elsewhere in the garden, so would not want another."

The only white-flowered, scented jasmine that is reliably hardy is the old-fashioned *Jasminum officinale* which is beginning to come out now and flowers through until the end of September. It is very vigorous and flowers best where it is given most room. Huge quantities of it were once grown round Grasse in France for the perfume industry, 7,000lb of blossom collected from each densely planted acre of jasmine. But I don't think that is the jasmine Ms Macpherson has in mind and it would be difficult to confine it to life in a 15in pot.

There are several other white-flowered scented species that survive outside in a Mediterranean climate. The best known of them is *J polyanthum*, which we more generally see as a pot plant, trained round a hoop of wire. Grown in this way, for a sheltered life in front of the television, it flowers through winter into early spring. Released into a more natural habitat outside, it flowers later, from April until June.

Ms Macpherson, down on the south coast, has at least a fighting chance of keeping this particular jasmine alive in winter. It thrives outside further down in the West country if it is given a sunny wall to play on. I think it would be worth the risk, because the smell is swoony. It is not particular about soil. A John Innes loam-based compost would be more sustaining than a soil-less one. John Innes No 2 would probably be best.

Rampaging in the Mediterranean over the tops of other shrubs or climbing into trees, this jasmine can reach almost 20ft, but in a pot, it is more likely to hover around three or four feet. It would need to be trained up and over a balloon or tripod of wire or bamboo, for its growth is very lax.

If you were growing this jasmine as a pot plant, you would expect to repot it every spring into fresh compost. This would be an unwieldy job in the size of pot Ms Macpherson has, so instead she could top-dress the compost each spring with Osmacote slow-release fertiliser or some similar product. She would need to keep the plant well watered.

Like *J officinale*, *J polyanthum* is evergreen, but slightly paler and brighter in leaf colour. It does not need much pruning. You train in as many growths as you want, then cut off anything you don't want after the plant has finished flowering.

Although *J polyanthum* is the most common of the white-flowered species found round the Mediterranean (yet its home is actually China), there are others such as *J azoricum* and *J sambac*, both of which are even more tender than *J polyanthum*. They do best in a greenhouse, kept just frost-free. *J azoricum* comes from Madeira, and has shiny evergreen foliage and very sweetly scented flowers. *J sambac*, an Indian species, is particularly resistant to drought, and flowers almost all the year round if the temperature is right.

However, neither of these are likely to help Ms Macpherson. If she doesn't want to risk losing a *J polyanthum* in its pot on her patio, or has nowhere to drag it under cover, what should she plant instead? Ideally, it needs to be a plant that would bake happily in summer, but could also canter through a frosty winter unscathed.

Would a mimosa survive the winter? It might. There used to be a wonderful great specimen growing on the west wall of a Georgian house in Wimborne Minster, not all that far from Southampton. I took the plunge earlier this season and put one against the west wall of our house. The foliage is a delight, whatever the time of year – fine, feathery and a strange shade of gun-metal blue. This is *Acacia dealbata*, the ordinary florist's mimosa, but it has grown at much too violent a rate to be suitable for life in a pot. A full- grown tree can be more than 45ft high.

A baileyana, the Cootamunda wattle, has the same flowering period – Christmas to April – but is a more manageable height and has foliage even more feathery than *A dealbata*. You can cut plants back quite hard after flowering if you want to control their size. In the wild, they generally favour ground that is slightly acid, so in limey areas, you may need to give pot-grown plants an occasional dose of Sequestrene to keep them happy.

One of the smaller ceanothus, such as *C azureus*, would survive in a pot if well watered, and would enjoy being baked in summer. *C azureus* comes from Mexico, is deciduous and is covered with deep blue flowers from July through until autumn.

'Gloire de Versailles' is the only ceanothus with scented flowers – I would rate scent as quite an important attribute in a patio plant – but it grows bigger than *C azureus*. It is deciduous and carries big panicles of pale powder blue flowers all through late summer. You can keep it to the required size by pruning hard in spring. Shorten the shoots of the previous year's growth to within three inches of the old wood.

A Judas tree would sunbathe happily on Ms Macpherson's patio, but how would it cope with life in a pot? Given that the pot is quite large, it would probably not grumble too much. You see them more usually grown as small trees – mine was plastered with deep pink flowers this spring – but if you chose a multi-stemmed specimen rather than a single stemmed one, you could grow it as a rounded bush, pruning it to shape when necessary.

The foliage is very pleasing – wide fat hearts in a bright, fresh green – but the tree is not evergreen. It flowers in April or May. The older the tree, the earlier it flowers. The flowers themselves spring directly from the trunk and branches, without any stems. You can see the tiny buds colouring up like pimples during the winter. It is a wonderful sight in flower. Mine is the ordinary kind, but there is an elegant white-flowered form, *Cercis siliquastrum* 'Alba'. Judas trees hate being moved, so buy them when they are still small. In a pot, they would need regular feeding as well as watering.

Why "Judas tree"? Because there is a tradition that this is the tree on which Judas hanged himself. Don't let that put you off it. It is a beauty. So is its cousin, *Cercis canadensis*, especially the dark-leaved form 'Forest Pansy'. Mine grows well in shade, but it is supposed to prefer full sun, so it might also be a candidate for the hot pot. Shrubs to avoid in that situation would be woodlanders such as rhododendrons, hydrangeas, camellias and pieris.

TOOLSHED

Why is the decorative potential of outdoor illumination so rarely exploited? Light is a fundamental, with infinite and subtle variability. On the purely practical side, garden lighting has the obvious benefit of extending the hours we can enjoy the garden. This is especially welcome during summer when dinner al fresco is a realistic proposition, but at other times of year it at least allows us to see the garden from indoors. The use of bright, overhead lights around the home to deter intruders is also useful. And there's the safety aspect: lights can improve access and safety on steps, paths and driveways.

As so often, it is when we move from the utilitarian to the aesthetic that things become really exciting – and the scope for dramatic garden effects using artificial lighting is huge. Back lighting with a wide beam can throw plants and structures into relief and accentuate their form; uplighting adds new perspective to planting: directional spotlights can be employed to pick out particular features . One of the most atmospheric techniques is called moonlighting – a soft light is placed at high level to cast a gentle, shadowy illumination. But in the excitement of electric possibilities, don't forget the charm of flares and candles – what could be more romantic?

A combination of subtlety and simplicity is required if the results are not to be impossibly garish. In general, a number of smaller, lower voltage lights produce better results than a single very bright one, which has the unfortunate tendency of making a garden look like a gulag.

Light type – whether spot, recessed, post and so on – should largely be determined by location and function. When choosing styles it is usually best to go for something fairly neutral that will blend in. There is a clear choice between mains and low-voltage lighting. Low-voltage lights are smaller and easier to conceal, as well as generally being simpler to install. As their cables do not necessarily have to be permanently fixed, they are transportable and many are fitted with ground spikes and clamps for this purpose. Their 12V supply, stepped down via a transformer from the 240V of the mains, is also inherently safer, and no harm will ensue even if a cable is inadvertently cut. On the downside, they have lower light output, a restricted cable length and with the addition of a transformer, are expensive to buy. Mains lighting, however, will almost certainly require the services of a professional electrician and involve the expense and disruption of laying proper electric cables. Do try and think of your lighting requirements before, and not after, paths and paving are laid or new borders planted up.

Whatever you choose, installing garden lighting is never likely to appeal to very budget-conscious gardeners but the addition of even a single, well-placed light can have real impact.

Tom Barber

In garden centres you are most likely to find the following makes: Garden (01462 475015 for stockists) and Hozelock (01844 291881 for stockists). Both do a range of easily installed low-voltage lights available as complete kits. For teak light fittings try Indian Ocean Trading Company (0181-675 4808). For a wide range of fittings and specialist advice try: John Cullen Lighting (0171-371 5400); Garden and Security Lighting (0171-231 8282); Outdoor Lighting Supplies (0181-974 2211).

Tom Barber presents Channel 4's Garden Party on Fridays

CUTTINGS

A new seed list has just arrived from John Drake, who holds the national collection of aquilegias at Harwicke House at Fen Ditton in Cambridgeshire. There are about 120 different varieties, though not all of them are on this most recent list.

I grew seven different types from Mr Drake's seed in September 1994 and they flowered this year. Stunners all. I particularly recommend 'Bellhaven Blue' which is a variety of the common columbine, *Aquilegia vulgaris*, with violet blue spurless flowers. The German variety 'Carl Ziepke' was gorgeous, too. This is a tall form of the alpine species, *A. alpina* and it has rich, deep-blue flowers.

The aquilegia seed is best sown as soon as possible after it is collected. This will mean getting your act together during late August or September. Sprinkle the seed as thinly as possible along the rows. Sometime the following year, when the little plants are large enough to handle without fear of damaging them, transplant them into fresh ground to grow on. While they are doing that, you can decide on where their final quarters are going to be.

This autumn, I am going to try sowing *A. longissima*, which looked quite magnificent on Carol Klein's stand at the Chelsea Flower Show earlier this year. It has spectacular, long yellow spurs. Carol Klein had it growing next to the stripey, sword-leaved sisyrinchium called 'Aunt May' and the sedum 'Morchen'.

Another combination would be to grow Miss Jekyll's aquilegia 'Munstead White' and partner it with inky black 'Molly Sanderson' violas and the deep-violet blue flowers of *Geranium sylvaticum* 'Mayflower'.

The aquilegia seeds cost £1.25 for a packet and you can get the seed list by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to John Drake, Hardwicke House, Fen Ditton, Cambridgeshire CB5 8TF.

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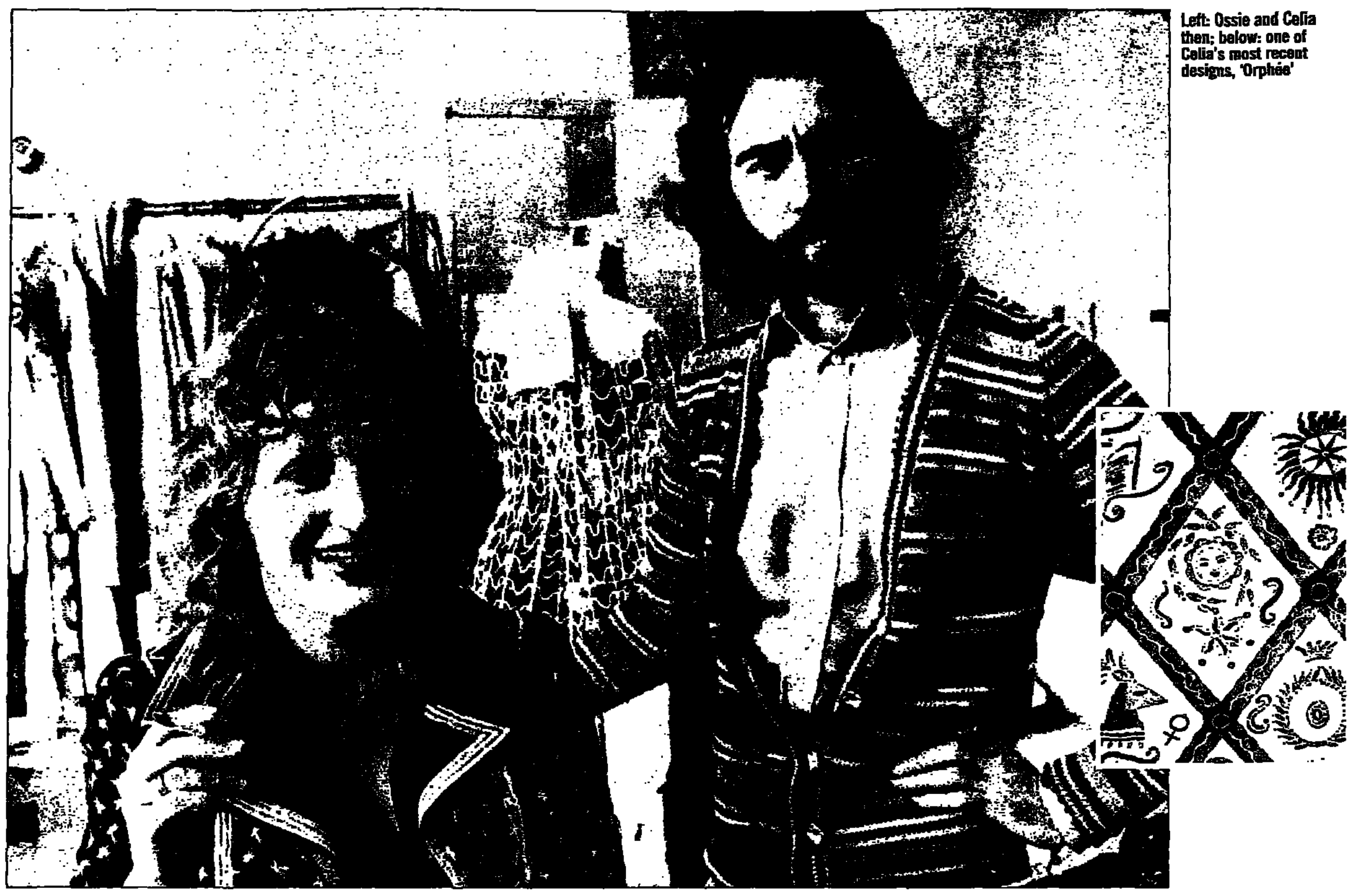
The Sixties survivor

Ossie Clark made the dresses, Celia Birtwell designed the fabrics When their marriage ended so did his career. Hers has thrived. By Liz Smith



Left: Ossie and Celia then; below: one of Celia's most recent designs, 'Orphée'

Ossie Clark was always clear about the date his luck ran out. It was 1974, the year he split up from Celia Birtwell and lost not just a loving wife but his partner in one of the most glamorous and innovative design partnerships of a generation. Ossie's dresses and Celia's fabrics. It was Celia who pushed him in the right direction. "I never knew how lucky I was," Ossie would say wistfully of Celia. She in turn says, "I was so spoilt working with Ossie. I could do what I wished." Their two distinct talents – his for a sexy, body-moulding bias cut, hers for naive hand-drawn patterns and fresh colour – had been a winning combination. While the rest of the little-girl clothes of the Sixties and early Seventies are mere period pieces, looked at with amused nostalgia, Ossie's designs in Celia Birtwell's distinctive cross-hatched and stylised flower prints are remembered as works of art.

It is no coincidence that some of the best documentation of Ossie Clark's creative talent turns out to be immortalised as works of art. Mr and Mrs Clark and their cat Percy, David Hockney's 1972 portrait of the pair that has appeared alongside so many of this week's obituaries of Ossie, is a vivid evocation of a particular time and place, and a very particular talent. Hockney went on to create over 50 drawings, etchings and aquaprints of Celia – Celia Amused, Celia Musing, Celia and Flowers. One is inscribed "For my dear little shepherdess", another to "Dearest Celia. The birds can always sing." Each one captures the twirl of bias crêpe, or an assymetric smock, cut by Ossie to complement one of Celia's stylised ribbon borders or fluttery flower prints. He made high waisted dresses with sashes that underlined Celia's rounded bosom. "He always designed for women with big bosoms and teeny waists," she said.

Like Ossie and David Hockney, Celia was part of a wave of talented northerners who came to London in the early Sixties. Born in Bury, brought up in Prestwich, she met Ossie in the Cona Coffee Bar in Manchester, where she was studying at Salford Art School. They were introduced by the painter Mo McDermott. Ossie, with his eye for fashion detail, remembered Celia's striped mini dresses of the time with their pie-crust frills, made by her mother. "Celia was quite the most enchanting creature," he said. When they met later in London, he remembered that Celia was dressed "in jeans and frilly Victorian blouses," sharing a flat with the painter Pauline Boty and working as a waitress in Hades. Then Ossie and Celia lived together for seven years before marrying in 1966. It was Hockney who persuaded them to marry. The odd relationship – seen from the outside as a bizarre ménage à trois, with Hockney apparently close to both Ossie and Celia – lasted for seven years before their marriage and five afterwards. "We worked wonderfully in unison, his dresses, my fabrics," Celia says.

When their marriage broke up, Celia gave up her career to bring up the children – Albert, now 26, and a chef at the restaurant, 192, and George, now 24, who trained with interior designer David Mlinaric and now works with his mother in her second, flourishing career, designing furnishing fabrics.

Celia moved tentatively back to work as the boys grew up, designing furnishing fabrics, taking inspiration, as always, from the colours of Matisse and Raoul Dufy's textiles. She also absorbs to good effect the primitive and street art around her in London's Portobello Road. In 1983, she took the plunge and opened a fabric shop at the eastern end of Westbourne Park Road, in what was a former tile shop, and where her unconventional style – gold prints on black silk, white-on-white voiles, setting a trend for stars in furnishings for those jaded by chintz – has found a flourishing market among the haute Bohemianism of that fashionable quarter of west London, romantics like Celia who have never come to terms with the off-white minimalism of today's lifestyle.

Celia still works with the same printers that she used in the Seventies, happily spending every Monday and Thursday in an aircraft hanger at Hayes in Middlesex, supervising the birth of her designs. She insists she has no interest in creating dress materials. A recent Seventies revival she described as "depressing". "We have seen it all. We have developed since then and I am not happy with what I see in fashion today."

As Ossie drifted further into his own rackety lifestyle, sometimes bankrupt, other times attempting a return to the business where he still had a loyal following of friends and admirers, Celia stood apart helpless to devise solutions to Ossie's problems, quietly building her own career. "He should stop exciting himself," she would say, "go to the country, draw for a year. He should disappear where we don't have to suffer for him anymore." Sadly, she could never have foreseen the suffering that would follow the tragic events of this week.

David Hockney remains a close friend, still sketching his favourite muse and "drawing with the camera" (as Hockney calls his photographic collages) her house and her shop. His own Malibu beach house is full of her uninhibited electric colours in silk prints, with names like "Bon-bon" and "Bohemian chintz". "It's like a love affair expressed through work" she has said of Hockney's continuing passion for using her as a model. "I draw what I feel Celia looks like, not what she looks like," Hockney says. "Hers is a marvellous face, very elusive. And so I draw it over and over again. I love her."

Celia Birtwell's designs on linen and silk start at £45.00 per metre. Contact Celia Birtwell, 71 Westbourne Park Road, London W2 5QH. Tel: 0171-221 0877.

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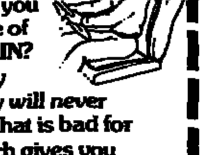

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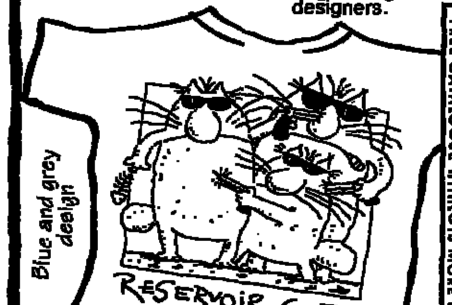

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It's not just the Macs who have clans

Even Smiths and Clarks can lay claim to Celtic roots. By Jenny McClean

Cotla-Gearr may sound like ventriloquism, but it is what style-conscious bridegrooms and wedding guests are wearing north of the border. And now south of the border, since the films *Braveheart* and *Rob Roy have had many of us rushing to* check out our celtic links.

A Cotla-Gearr is a Highland jacket, invariably worn with a feile (kilt), a sporran (originally designed to carry wilderness rations of oatmeal and a metal plate), ghillie brogues (laced pumps) and hose *sporting garter flashes and possibly a sgian*-dubh, a small knife tucked into the welt.

A lacy jabot shirt completes the basic kit although Jane Pattie, a clan aficionado who has worked for The Scotch House in London and Edinburgh for 20 years, considers a plain evening shirt more stylish.

Jane currently works in the Tartan Room at the company's Knightsbridge branch which holds around 230 clan tartans, although a total of 700 can be ordered from their Scottish suppliers. This includes a large range of flame-retardant upholstery tartans at £39.50 per metre.

"Our best-sellers have always been Black Watch and Royal Stewart," says Jane, "but since the films, business has almost doubled and we're selling a lot more clan tartans."

Searching the directory for my own pattern, or sett, I found two – clan and hunting; most clans have at least these two options. If you want to make your own kilt (though many young male customers simply throw a length of plaid over their shoulder, Liam Neeson-style) you will need 3.70m of double-width fabric at around £25 per metre. Most customers opt to have their kilts made up for them. For 37 years the Scotch House has been sending this work *up to a Scottish couple who run their own* business.

The work is painstaking, with deep pleats hand-stitched to exactly match the pattern repeat. Even the belt loops blend in.Since kilt fabric can weigh anything from 8 to 16oz per metre, and an average kilt uses eight metres, spare fabric is trimmed inside and the garment lined with calico.

"Even so a kilt can add four inches to your hips," warns Jane, "so most women opt for a more fitted kilted skirt instead, especially as, historically, full kilts are only worn by men. Kilted skirts are obviously cheaper than kilts – £150 compared with £425.

Authentic kilt-making is an apprenticed craft, as I saw when I visited the workroom of Daiglen Traditional Kiltmakers and Highland outfitters, tucked away at the foot of the Ochil Hills in the heart of Clackmannanshire's woollen mill country. Off the tourist trail, local people and ex-pats alike make their way to a side street in Tillicoultry, where kilts and jackets are made to measure on site. When you see the expertise involved, £215 for a medium weight kilt sounds like a bargain.

You don't have to be a Mac to have a clan – Smiths, Clarks and Elliotts all *have a tartan. But if you do not, or have* fallen out with your relatives, one of the newer, general-purpose setts might suit. In 1934 the National Association of Scottish Woollen Manufacturers came up with a general purpose red and green tartan they called National. Sixty years later *McCalls designed and registered the* Scottish National Dress Tartan, dark green with a wide white strip. (Though perhaps most versatile of all is the Welsh kilt, made from plain black native wool and longer than the Scottish or Irish versions.)

New tartans are being invented all the time (including, inevitably, a Braveheart).There is a Mother's Pride tartan, created to adorn 7000 teddy bears for a promotional campaign; a bright blue Nuclear Fuels job, typical of the boon in corporate and commercial tartans launched over the past five years; *and a yellow Mc*Duck tartan, as worn by Scrooge McDuck, uncle of Donald, and drawn up by Walt Disney in 1942.

The Scottish Tartans Society, which holds a register of all publicly-known tartans, drew the line, however, at a Jesus Christ tartan, designed in all seriousness by an American. Christ could have had a tartan, though. During the Roman occupation the early Celts were noted for their woollen cloth coloured with plant extracts. This subtle shading was largely lost with the creation of aniline dyes. However, as a kilt can last several generations if mothproofed, modern dyes do ensure that the colour lasts.

Even though many of the pre-Culloden setts have been lost, there are still around 2,500 tartans, increasing at the rate of about 40 a year. Most date back at least 100 years but, perhaps surprisingly, the new upstarts are largely welcomed on the grounds that anything in tartan, even a cartoon character or a sales rep, publicises Scotland.

Being a conscientious journo, I asked the $64,000 question, (being careful not to phrase it "Is anything worn under a kilt?" to which the answer is "No, everything's in perfect working order!"). Apparently the fashion-conscious Highlander opts for natty tartan briefs known as Nessies.

Daiglen Traditional Kiltmakers and Highland Outfitters, 27 Stirling Street, Tillicoultry, Clackmannanshire FK13 6EB (01259 750440).
The Scotch House, 2 Brompton Road, London SWIX 7PB (0171-581 2151) and 39/41 Princes Street, Edinburgh (0131-556 1252).

Pattern cutting at Daigien Traditional Kiltmakers

Photograph: Jeremy Sutton

A little bit of heather and a special kind of fog

Fraoch is a very special brew, but not for lager drinkers. By Hamish Scott

Scotland has a national drink with a far more ancient history than whisky according to Bruce Williams, the Glaswegian home-brew specialist responsible for reinventing Heather Ale. Four thousand years ago, Neolithic settlers on *the Isle of Rum were fermenting alcohol* from heather flowers – using pottery containers that still bear traces of the residue when analysed by archaeologists. The Picts were also well aware that their warriors and artists might occasionally need a drop of inspiration to fend off the effects of a miserable climate: legends that have passed down from the Dark Ages record their skill in brewing an "awful grand drink… from heather and some unknown kind of fog". Folklore even claims, appealingly if unreliably, that whisky was invented as an accidental by-product of heather ale when some thirsty – or particularly canny – highlanders were tempted to lick condensation from the stone roof of their brew-house.

Mr Williams's interest in Heather Ale developed in the 1980s when he opened his first home-brew shop in Glasgow. Hops do not grow in Scotland and, on the west coast in particular, a tradition of using more available ingredients has lingered through the centuries. In 1987 a customer brought in an old hand-written recipe for "leann fraoch" which, when translated from the Gaelic, described the proportions of malted barley, heather and bog myrtle used in the old brew. For the next five summers, as the heather in the Trossach hills came into flower, Mr Williams worked in a pleasurably amateurish manner at perfecting the required techniques until, in 1992, he felt sufficient confidence to produce the ale commercially. His brother Scott, an expert in malt extracts working for a large distillery, quit his job to join the enterprise and Fraoch Pictish Ale was launched at an unsuspecting market.

Production was at first decidedly small scale. The brothers found an English businessman who had, in Bruce's words, "cast away his wristwatch and bought a little brewery in Taynuilt". Using these idyllic though low-tech facilities deep in the Argyle hills, they *brewed their prod*uct in five-gallon batches. Six local pubs accounted for their full capacity and demand soon far outstripped supply. The time had come to risk expansion and investment. The time had come to ask a bank to loan the fledgling business £20,000.

The loan was summarily refused, despite a detailed business plan. The amount was "well beyond Mr Williams's means", according to the bank. Bruce Williams's response was to send the bank a poem by Robert Louis Stevenson that recounted in heroic verse how a Pictish chieftain had braved torture from the Scots and sacrificed his son rather than reveal the recipe for Fraoch. "Here dies in my bosom the secret of Heather Ale," the poem ended on a stirring, pessimistic note. Two weeks later, a call came through from Edinburgh. "Someone upstairs likes your rhyme," Mr Williams was informed. He had three months to repay the loan.

Heather Ale is now produced at one of Scotland's oldest breweries, Maclains in Alloa, where Mr *Williams uses* oak and copper tuns that date back to the early 19th century. The three month loan was repaid within eight weeks and the past three years have seen the beer rise from the status of a local oddity to gain far wider recognition and ever-growing sales. Timing has, in some respects, been fortunate *for such a definitively Scottish product and* Mr Williams happily admits to having taken full advantage of nationalistic sentiment in his advertising and promotion. When Mel Gibson threw a party in Los Angeles to celebrate the Oscar won for *Braveheart* he had 20 cases of Fraoch air-freighted in as a Celticly Correct alternative to vintage champagne. Hotels, restaurants and specialist food shops throughout the Highlands have discovered that visitors are thirsty for a beer with legendary local roots. At remote pubs such as Glencoe's Clachaig Inn, punk and hairy mountain climbers share a common interest in any new, exotic route either to a summit or inebriation. Few in Aberdeen would even dream of drinking heather ale and *Highlanders themselves are notoriously* wary of new fashions, but Fraoch is now, much to its advantage, part of the new Scottish folklore.

The beer has a distinctive taste. "It's not for lager drinkers," Mr Williams says with satisfaction. The flowery sweetness of heather is cut with the astringent herb *bog myrtle to create a lingering and spicy* flavour that is either loved or loathed. Fraoch is unlikely to ever to be a rival to Carlsberg Special Brew or Tennants. Compared to such brewing giants, production still remains on a minuscule level – just 2,000 barrels a year. But Mr Williams would prefer to think of this relatively small figure as representing one million pints consumed by satisfied enthusiasts. In 1995 he harvested, by rough and ready means, just forty acres of Scotland's heather. Some eleven million acres still remain ungathered, appreciated only by photographers and grouse. With a bigger van and better marketing, Mr Williams hopes he may perhaps increase his market share.

Fraoch Heather Ale, 0141-339 3479

Gathering heather for Fraoch: a local beer with legendary roots

Photograph: Jeremy Sutton

THE ESSENTIAL EDINBURGH FOOD GUIDE

Visitors to Edinburgh in search of Scottish food and drink to take home as *gifts* or souvenirs would be best advised to steer well clear of the innumerable tourist shops with *tartan carpeting and welcome* signs in half-a-dozen languages. Far more interesting produce – generally at more attractive prices – can be found in smaller, independent outlets that have established reputations amongst Edinburgh's own citizens.

For knowledgeable whisky drinkers, Cadenhead's is the ultimate off-licence. Here, *£7,500 will buy just one bottle* of 1919 Campbeltown, whilst on a somewhat more realistic level there is a choice of more than 100 *malts, all bottled at full* strength from single casks and many from distilleries no longer in production. Up in Leith, the Scotch Malt Whisky Society also offers an amazing range of rare, unadulterated malts, which may *be sampled by the dram in* their elegantly furnished club room. Though the club is members-only, visitors may join over the bar for an annual subscription of just £20.

Many local butchers still produce proper haggis in a natural casing and there is fierce rivalry as to which might be the finest. The best-known and one of the most consistent is made by Macsween, who also sell a range of pies and black puddings, all hand-made on the premises. *George Bower – chiefly known* as Edinburgh's premier game dealer – also makes a very decent haggis. On Tuesday of next week, *following* the "glorious 12th", the shop will be as crowded as any Festival venue when the first grouse of the season go on sale. One of the city's few fishmongers, George Armstrong, cures his own smoked salmon over oak chips, following a recipe handed down through the generations of the family. A good range of smoked fish, including salmon, is also to be found in Jenner's, the Princes Street department store that is much a city institution as the Usher Hall. Shortbreads, jams and oatcakes are among the many other Scottish products to *be found in their food hall*.

For distinctive Scottish cheese such as Bonchester and Lanark Blue, the place to go is Iain Mellis. Décor in the little shop is spartan and there is scarcely room to move between enormous truckles, but every cheese on sale is farm-produced and ripened to perfection under carefully *controlled* conditions in a nearby cellar. Next door, The Auld Alliance sells delicious sourdough bread, along with *other subtle*-flavoured loaves, baguettes and brioches.

No tour of Edinburgh's food shops would be *complete* without a visit to Valvona & Crolla. For more than 60 years this has been the city's best *Italian* deli – an Aladdin's cave crammed floor to ceiling with exotic goodies. There are many Scottish products to be found amongst the pastas, fungi, oils and wines, but the accent is exuberantly cosmopolitan. Like the festival *itself*, the shop is an almost overwhelming celebration of cultural diversity in a city that takes great pride in being a *European capital*.

Cadenhead's. 172 Canongate. Tel: 0131-556 5864.
Macsween. 130 Bruntsfield Place. Tel: 0131-229 1216.
George Bower. 75 Rayburn Place. Tel: 0131-332 3469.
George Armstrong. 80 Rayburn Place. Tel: 0131-315 2033.
Jenner's. Princes Street. Tel: 0131-225 2442.
Iain Mellis. 30 Victoria Street. Tel: 0131-226 6215.
The Auld Alliance. 32 Victoria Street. Tel: 0131-622 7080.
Valvona & Crolla. 19 Elm Row. Tel: 0131-556 1688.

HS

Six of the best alphabet motifs

1 **Lisa Marklew Button covers, £5.00 each or £22 for a set of five** Disguise boring buttons with these smart ceramic covers. A metal clip at the back slips over existing buttons so you can move them from shirt to shirt or change your message to suit your mood. Contact ceramicist Lisa Marklew on 0171-916 2368 for details.

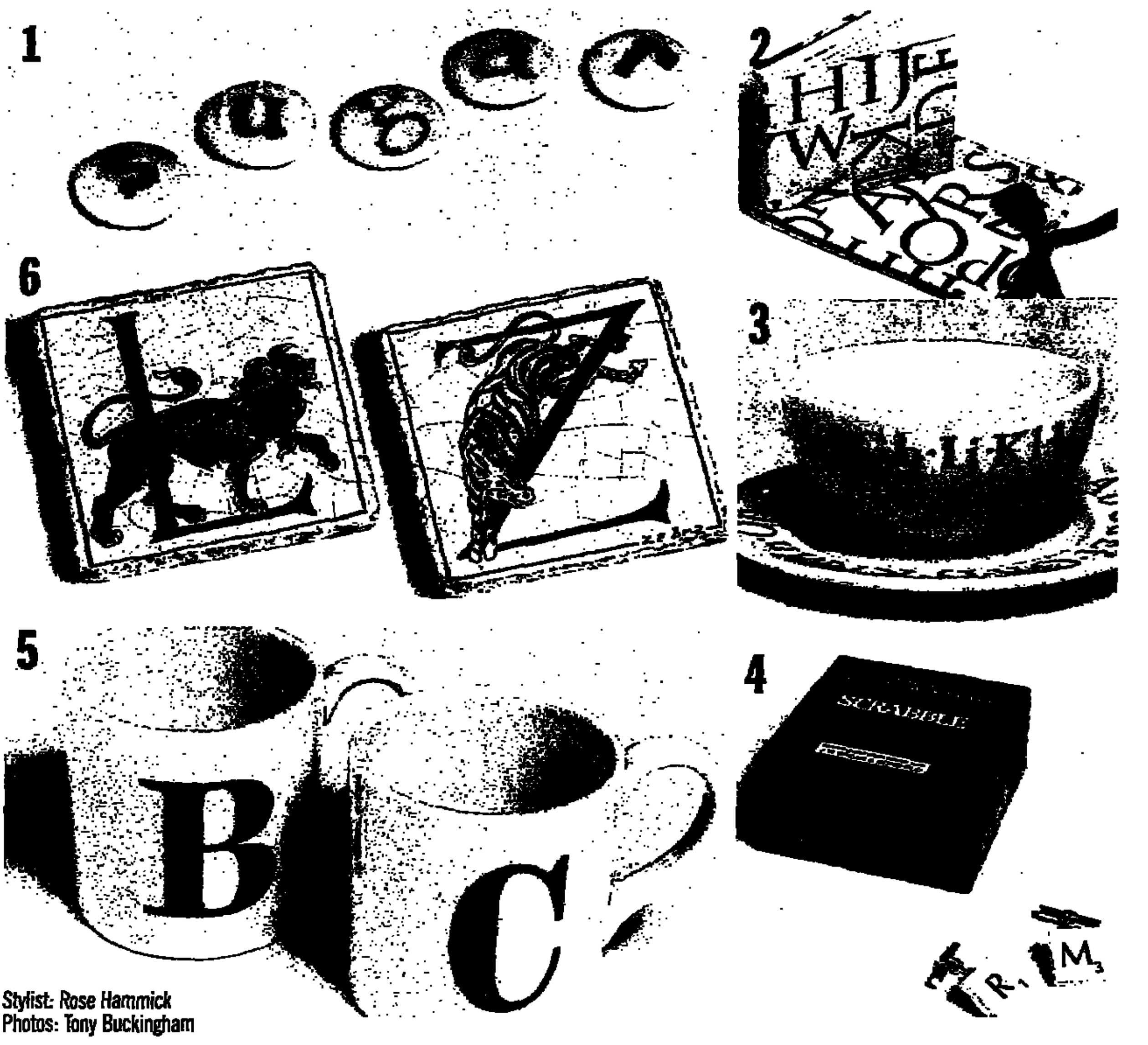
2 **Alphabet note books, from £6.99, Paperchase** Smart gold and black stencilled canvas covers on the outside and smooth cream paper, indexed for addresses – or plain for notes – on the inside. Call 0171-580 8496.

3 **Whittards Breakfast bowl and plates, £10 for six** Whittards launched their alphabet range earlier this year as a bit of an experiment, but everything has sold so well that they are planning more. The current range includes mugs, teapots, dinner plates, side plates, and soup plates. All items are dishwasher safe, and if you find your local branch has sold out don't panic as more stocks are coming in the new year. Call 0171-924 1888 for mail order and telephone enquiries

4 ***Scrabble Cufflinks £14.99* a pair, Heals** These scrabble tile cufflinks make the perfect present for the man who has everything except buttons on his shirt cuffs. Tel 0171-636 1666 for nearest store.

5 **Mugs, £6.25, Heals** Anything initialed makes an ideal last minute present and these cream mugs with dark indigo letters are no exception. Tel 0171-636 1666 for nearest store.

6 **Paris Ceramics Animal alphabet tiles, £500 + VAT for set of 26** This alphabet range – in Paris Ceramic's crackle glaze – was inspired by children's book illustrations from the turn of the century. Great in the kitchen, bathroom or nursery. Call 0171-371 7778.



Stylist: Rose Hammick
Photos: Tony Buckingham

The thing about...

Loyalty cards

Certain words are tops with marketeers because of their great emotive power. Loyalty, for instance. Loyalty was once something you gave your spouse, your country, your friends. It existed for its own sake, one of the altruisms which one indulged without expectation of reward because it made the world a better place. And now? Now, the word most often associated with loyalty is "Card". Loyalty now means buying enough food in one supermarket to earn £5 off your next bill.

The loyalty factor has been around a long time: the first obvious example was the still-running Co-op divvy. Green Shield went under nearly 20 years ago, the last time shoppers noticed that they were actually paying for the scheme in increased till prices, but we have been lured back by the hi-tech, swipe-it-and-see sophistication of the new generation.

Books of stamps conjure up images of nights spent licking in front of the coal fire. A swipe card makes the holder feel devilishly modern. More people have loyalty cards these days than credit cards. Now that Tesco offers interest of 5.12 per cent on credit balances and a cheap APR on debit on the new Cabinet Plus – better than the average current account – they seem sure to expand even further.

This, at least in the short term, is good news for the consumer. It also has another significant good-news factor for the retailer: the database. Soon the big multiples will hold almost as much information about us as *Reader's Digest*, and will be able to target us as pesto buyers or consumers of party eggs. Boots, going national after successful trials in Norwich, can remind us to replace old toothbrushes and out-of-date pharmaceuticals. Sainsbury's can match baked beans with shower curtains in their Homebase outlets. Until the day when one chain dominates the marketplace, we will be bombarded with savings.

But the small trader can fight back. In March, retailers in Leominster, Hereford and Worcester introduced the Loyal to Leominster card, which offers inducements throughout the town centre. It seems to have stopped the rot – at one point 35 of the town's shops were boarded up – which set in when Safeway opened there four years ago. The scheme has 8,000 members, and tourists can pick up a visitor's version. Now similar schemes are being considered in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Ross-on-Wye and Belper. Don't you know there's a trolley war on?

Serena Mackesy

bazaar

Top ten Glasgow Gunmakers

407 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9GA Tel: 0141-337 2277

No need to pity the poor Grouse on Monday if this week's sales at The Glasgow Gunmakers – the quality country clothing and shooting accessories store – are anything to go by. The birds in Scotland can rest safe in the knowledge that neither guns nor shot made it into the shop's top ten.

1. RM Williams boots	£149
2. Musto Gortex jackets	£269
3. David Andrew water-proof tweed coats	£285
4. David Andrew tweed plus twos	£79
5. Driza-bone full length coats	£125
6. RM Williams moleskin trousers	£75
7. Chameau leather-lined boots	£175
8. Musto snug jacket - fleece-lined	£119
9. Aigle boots	£41
10. John Partridge Gortex shooting coat	£250

Good thing

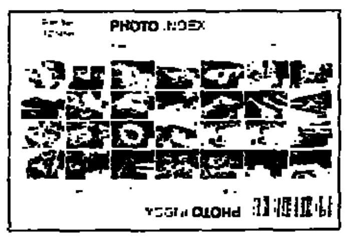


Photo index, 99p The problem with photographic negatives lies in the slightly vague process of holding hundreds of them up to the light and squinting through unrecognisable lunar-looking landscapes and people who appear to be B-movie special effects to track down your favourite shot for enlargement. SupaSnaps stores accross the country can now print the whole film in miniature to form a postcard-sized contact sheet showing all the photos at a glance. Each picture has its own identification number which corresponds to the correct negative to be used.

Mad thing

Florida flamingoes, £25 a pair If you wake up on your birthday and find your lawn peppered with plastic flamingoes matching your age in number, someone who loves you has been struck by North American lawn culture. Kitsch and Chic, purveyors of funky plastic products, are encouraging this trans-Atlantic tradition with their Florida Flamingoes, along with a general call for "fun, colour and a much more relaxed environment". Their more orthodox products are geared towards the bathroom and kitchen – or should that be kitschen.

Kitsch & Chic, Studio 51, 140 Battersea Park Rd, London SW11 4NB. Tel 0171-720 9444 for details of stockists.

Tel: 0171 293 2222

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Fax: 0171 293 2505

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MALE IS LOOKING for petite lady. Professional musician, GSOH, sight disability, very independent lifestyle. Loves eating out, live music concerts and would like fun and companionship. S.E. London. Box No I: 1188.

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HERTS & ESSEX. Sparkling parties, & candlelit dinners. Call Eleanor for a friendly chat/brochure. ACROSS THE ROOM, Tel: 01277 352742.

HOSPITAL CONSULTANT (54), diverse interests, cultural/sport/travel. Personable, *easy going, seeks independent* F 40+, similar interests for companionship/travel etc... Will reply. Box No I:1475.

F ILLUSTRATOR 38 likeable lonely *N/S seeks M GSOH. Box No* I:1434.

LOVELY SINGLE LADY, 37, dark blonde, 5' 7", solvent, wicked SOH, fun, seeks well healed clever man, for nest building, family orientated. Photo? Midlands / North West / Travel? Box No I:1464.

ATTRACT. M 45 LOOKS yngr. Natural caring spiritual N/S slim. Wltm slm F U43 Ldn. ALA. Box No I:1476.

MAINLY RECONSTRUCTED PROF. MAN, 46, Veg. Likes mountains, meditation, openness. Seeks self aware, warm, Aberdeenshire woman. Box No I:1477.

AMIABLE M, VEG, grad,lowly job,cyclist,Ldn,young 52,SOH. Int: Life's mysteries,health. WLTM F,any nat,SOH. ALA/Box No I:1478.

60, JUST RETIRED, small, warm, active woman, with many interests. WLTM fit N/S man to share walking, music & holidays. *Box No* I:1479.

ROSIN FROM CAMBS. What a lovely gesture. Send address for reply. *Box No I:1425.*

AMERICAN/RUSSIAN LADY, lawyer, 39, intense and varied cultural interests, would like to meet a gentleman with a sense of *humour. Box No I:1480.*

BLACK WRITER 25 6'4" slim seeks arty tall attractive ladies with SOH for that special thing. Photo. Box No I:1481.

HAPPY, OPTIMISTIC, PROFESSIONAL, weatherbeaten, single, free-spirited male, 34, surrey, seeks curious, articulate, sensitive *female for adventures on new* horizons. Box No I:1461.

LOVELY SINGLE LADY, 37, dark blonde, 5' 7", solvent, wicked SOH, fun, seeks well healed clever man, for nest building, family orientated. Photo? Midlands / North West / Travel?

M1 WLTM M2. M1: Writer/director, 48, *loves nature, travel, all arts* especially theatre. M2: N/S, GSOH. NW/Yorks. Box No I:1463.

TALL, DARK, ENLIGHTENED MALE, 42, successful, experienced, dry sense of *humour,* seeks slim, intelligent female, 20's/30's, for passionate affair. London/south. Box No I:1462.

SLIM, FIT MAN, 44, serious gardener, music lover, seeks women for garden visits and long walks. Avon / South West. Box No I:1469.

GOOD COOK, GOOD ARTIST, good *looking man, 38, seeks friendship* with lady. I love snowdrops, sincerity and Sibelius. Leicester. Box No I:1468.

ATTRACTIVE, SPIRITED GAL, 38, helpless romantic with SOH, WLTM interesting male. Box No I:1468.

ATHLETIC, GOOD-LOOKING, FAIR HAIR, *blue-eyed law student (31)* former naval officer, seeks active, adventurous, professional-minded lady. Photo app. London SE. Box No I:1457.

JOLLY ART DEALER, of North West London, separated, solvent, sociable and sincere seeks interesting 30's lady. Box No I:1450.

WITTY, PRETTY WOMAN, seeks single man who is kind, honest and fun, (50-65). Box No I:1465.

VIVACIOUS WOMAN 41, Leftish, thoughtful, likes travelling the countryside, the arts, seeks *like-*minded man, London. Photo helps. Box No I:1454.

SW IRELAND, SINGLE, 38, *female.* Relaxed, intelligent, SOH, liberal, well travelled. Likes hill walking, world music, good conversation. WLTM intelligent, affectionate man with GSOH. Box No I:1449.

PRETTY WOMAN, 33, tired of studying australopithecines, seeks modern Homo Sapiens for relationship, Bristol/Bath area. Photo appreciated. Box No I:1448.

WEST YORKS MAN: 48 but still jumping, seeks mystic woman (35+) to review horizons and futures. Box No I:1452.

CHESH MALE 50'S ,n/s,seeks female walking/cycling companion who likes music, arts, talking, sketching & the countryside. Box No I:1447.

SUCCESSFUL, 5' 10", TALL, dark, & handsome art dealer, 34, WLTM prof. curvy lady, 25-35 for friendship and more. Photo please. All letters replied. Box No I:1446.

CONFIDENT COMMUNICATIVE WOMAN SOUGHT by relaxed sensitive male, 44, 6ft. Box No I:1451.

HANDSOME, EDUCATED PRROF., continental-looking male, 26, seeks mature, refined, attractive lady 25-40 for a warm, intimate relationship. Photo appr. South-east/London. Box *No* I:1439.

GIRL, 17, *SEEKS* man to take her to the opera. Box No I:1438.

PETITE, OUTGOING, 30+ brunette, loves music and comedy, seeks n/s under 45 male, Cambs *area.* Send potted emotional hist and photo in confidence. We all deserve another chance. Box No I:1437.

CULTURED JAPANESE LADY **SOUGHT** by tall, athletic English bachelor, 31, university educated, steady job. Box No I:1441.

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PROF. MALE, 42, attractive, SOH, loyal, caring, tall, fit, varied interests. WLTM attractive, intelligent woman (28-35). Photo. *London/South.* Box No I:1436.

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Where Victoriana meets the Orient

Harriet O'Brien, travel writer of the year, is stirred by the melting pot of Chinese, Malay and European cultures in Malaysia's most cosmopolitan city

There was a cheerful element of pandemonium at the temple. Small children darted through the crowds, dexterously avoiding being trodden underfoot; their parents, meanwhile, were lighting incense, praying, and diligently clattering fortune-telling sticks in bamboo cylinders to find out if their supplications would be granted. Through the smoke that spiralled from guttering candles, tables groaning with flower, mangoes, plump packages of cooked rice and other offerings, were dimly visible. More people arrived, squeezing their way past the ornately carved temple doors, with more children, more food, more flowers.

It was a public holiday. And it seemed as if a good half of Malaysia's Chinese population had descended on the Cheng Hoon Teng temple in Melaka as part of a grand day out. It is a colourful jazz band of a place: red paper lanterns swing down from the brightly painted roof, which crawls with an intriguing array of carved mythical beasts; gilt glistens from the hardwood panelling; Buddha images smile fatly at the throng of visitors. Dating from about 1646, this is the oldest of the country's Chinese temple – and one of the most venerated.

I looked on, bemused at the activity – and politely ignored by the worshippers. Then a sudden tropical downpour sent people scurrying, picking up their children and making for the inner recesses. An obliging Chinese lady who was heading out of the temple offered me a half share of her umbrella. We parted damply at a nearby coffee shop, a decidedly modern European addition to the city's old Chinatown.

A maze of twisting streets: Melaka's vibrant Chinatown

Photograph: Trip

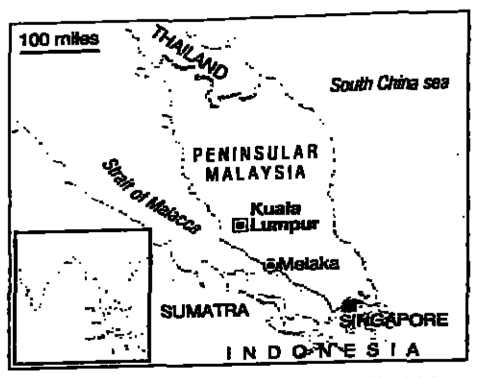
Melaka (now only rarely Anglicised to Malacca) is a true melting pot of Malaysian culture. Visit this absorbing old trading centre and you neatly take in most of the salient contributions to the country's make-up: Portuguese, Dutch, British, Chinese and, of course, indigenous Malay.

On one side of the Melaka River the Europeans squabbled over the territory in subsequent waves and set up shop uphill, literally overlording the bustling commerce of the Chinese and Malays below. Remnants of Western imperialism are scattered around the eastern side of the waterfront. The weatherworn gateway of the Porta Santiago is all that remains of *the fortress the Portuguese established* after their arrival in the early 16th century. The hot-pink Stadthuys was built as an imposing town hall by the Dutch after they ousted the Portuguese in the mid 17th century. Today it houses a sizeable ethnographic museum. On the hill above it is the roofless ruin of the church of St Paul, also dedicated to St Mary. Signposts in English somewhat charmingly announce the way to "Our Lady of Enunciation".

At the Stadthuys museum you learn that the desecration was a British contribution: a grubby bit of colonial powerplay. When the French occupied the Netherlands during the Napoleonic war, the British, as allies of the *Dutch, took temporary charge of Holland's* colonies, Melaka among them. Some friends the British were. At pains to stymie any potential power the Dutch might have when their territories were restored, the British set about demolishing the trading post (they even used the remaining walls of St Pauls as a gunpowder magazine). They were stopped from total destruction by Thomas Stamford Raffles (then British governor of Java, and later founder of Singapore). It was undoubtedly a wise move: in 1824, just six years after the Dutch resumed control of the area, Holland did a swap with Britain and exchanged Melaka for the British colony of Bengkulu in Sumatra. The British set*tled in to Melaka*, converted the demurely Baroque Dutch parish Church of Christ for Anglican use (as it remains today) and, apart from the Japanese occupation during the Second World War, stayed there until Malaysia was granted independence in 1957.

As you watch young Chinese and Malay daytrippers posing for photographs at the Dutch tombstones at St Pauls and by the old Portuguese gate of Santiago, it seems that Western colonialism has simply become a curiosity of the past. But the quarters of the Chinese and Malay traders remain a part of living history.

In Tanjung Kling, on the northern outskirts of the city, you can still wander through tradi*tional Malay kampungs – villages made up of* old-fashioned bamboo-thatch houses with neat little balconies at the front. Meanwhile Chinatown, its narrow lanes lined with an appealing array of shops (garage mechanics side-by-side with herbalists and smart antique boutiques), stretches east of the Melaka River.



Whatever the continuing unease between Malaysia's Chinese and Malay peoples, in Melaka at any rate there was some integration. Baba-Nonya, the intermarriage between Straits-born Chinese traders and Malays, became a significant Melakan culture. And a very profitable one. Food, architecture, artefacts: it's an intriguing *mix* not only of two Eastern cultures but of a prevailing 19th-century Western influence. Victoriana meets the Orient.

At 48 Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock in Chinatown, you can take a tour of an old Baba-Nonya house – guided by the smiling descendants of the clearly very well-to-do merchant family who once lived there. Behind a modest and austere looking street front, this is a mini palace of rich surprises, opening out into quiet courtyards complete with ponds and small fountains. There are boudoirs with intricately carved Chinese beds, sitting rooms with stiff, Victorian-style chairs and a proud collection of early manual typewriters, and a vast kitchen with an eclectic mix of Eastern and Western cooking implements.

On a less formal level, you can get a good taste of Baba-Nonya life at Jonkers on Jalan Hang Jebat, an expensive antiques shop fronting a very reasonable restaurant. Here you sit in the cool courtyard of another old Chinese-Malay mansion with subtly spiced dishes, drinking fresh lime juice and wondering at the curi*ous mix of cultures* that has made up Melaka – and Malaysia.

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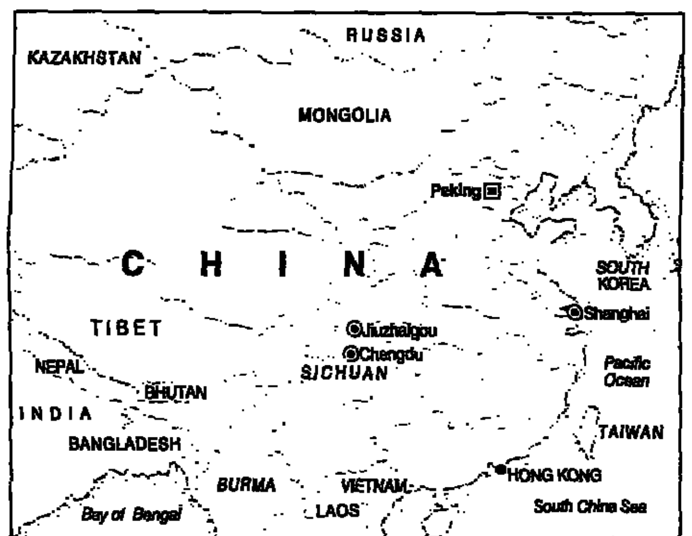
Jiuzhaigou's inaccessibility is a boon. It would be spoiling fast if it were easier to reach

By William Mackesy

ove: the monastery at Jiuzhaigou. Below: Tibetan traders at Songpan

Photographs: William Mackesy



Jiuzhaigou is almost a joke it is so beautiful: a magical valley of forests and shimmering mineral lakes nestling among soaring peaks in the Tibetan massif. Gorgeous waterfalls cascade down the mountainsides; eams meander *through glossy* meadows azed by herds of ponies. And there's a *h variety of plants and wildlife: this a* nd of pheasants, reclusive pandas and lourful rhododendra.

Getting to Jiuzhaigou is not easy. It lies an inaccessible corner of Sichuan ovince in western China and the jour- y from the provincial capital of Chengdu kes two days or more by bus. You lurch ong spectacular but notoriously dan- rous roads which are snowbound for uch of the year and in the rainy summer ften impassable. Landslides are common nd bus-loads are regularly swept into vines.

Short of time, we hired a jeep for £30 a ay. Our *driver*, Mr Liu, became a good riend. Although only forty, he had the ppearance of a wizened chipmunk with permanent expression of surprise. He ad a remarkable capacity for hard liquor.

For a couple of hours out of the city our oad rambled though the gentle, domes- ic Sichuan plain. The first rampart of the Tibetan mountains emerged suddenly rom the smog and we started a full day of climbing into the high country.

In Mao Tse-tung's day, *strategic indus-* ries tended to be placed in inaccessible *mountain valleys. For 60 miles we followed* a typical example, with smoking factories *itting incongruously* among the fields and orchards. These petered out after the heerful, dusty town of Wenchuan, and rom then on we were in unsullied coun- ryside.

We spent the night at the fortified town of Songpan, an old trading outpost. In the ast, the region was a wild frontier of the Chinese empire; Songpan swarms with ninority tribes, *including Moslems* who rifted over the mountains from the north. aily-clad *Tibetans mix warily* with the vig- rous Han Chinese who control the trade the valleys.

Part of the fun of visiting China lies in eople-watching, and Songpan gave us front row seats. We rubbed shoulders with rugged Tibetan hillmen down with their pack ponies for the market, red-cowled women buying food, watchful traders and curious loiterers.

Our road took us through mellow villages of wooden chalets clustered by mountain streams. Lower down, solid stone farmhouses squatted among their orchards. *White tents of nomadic* tribes people dotted the hillsides in the high pastureland. *Bright prayer flags*, often ragged with age, fluttered above the villages and nomads' camps.

Jiuzhaigou's inaccessibility is a boon: it is now an official beauty spot and would be spoiling fast if it were easier to reach. Even so, some basic hotels are appearing outside the entrance to the National Park. As self-styled intrepid travellers, we spurned these to our cost and paid £3 each *a night* at a primitive guesthouse up the valley.

The best way to explore is, of course, on foot. As a practical man, Mr Liu was shocked by our eccentric insistence on walking. We would round bends in the track to find him waiting solicitiously in case we had tired of this peculiar behaviour. However, he reluctantly drove us to the end of each of Jiuzhaigou's two high valleys, and we walked back down. We passed pools and lakes of wondrous colours – from the lightest turquoise to the richest emeralds, blues and purples – retained by yellow calcium based dykes. Waterfalls and cascades rushed between the lakes, sometimes punctuated by bushy islets and smaller pools. The water and air were so *pure that* all colours seemed a little unreal in their intensity.

The *most* famous sites were *briefly* crowded twice a day when the buses came and went. As the itinerant tourists arrived, entrepreneurial Tibetans did brisk trade in yak-perching fancy dress photo-opportunities.

The Pear Shoals, a shallow cascade some 200 yards wide, gurgles over a pale yellow bed. A rickety walkway crosses it, *with pavilions where we sat dreaming* and watching the waters bubbling past. At the bottom, the stream tips spectacularly over a wide fall of sculpted yellow stone.

An expedition to Jiuzhaigou involves some hardships. Even the locals in Chengdu, used to years of Cultural Revolution privation, told us that the food was terrible. They were not wrong. The kitchen in our charmless eating-hall was like a Hieronymus Bosch painting, strewn with half-dismembered corpses. Furnaces roared in the gloom and the grinning cooks gobbed with gusto on to a greasy floor.

The area is bitter at night. We shivered under puny blankets despite three layers of clothes – plus walking boots on the night when a rat noisily gobbled all our soap.

*From Jiuzhaigou we moved on to Huan*glongsi and wound our way through vivid *pastures. Shortly after day-break* we arrived above a large monastery with early morning smoke and tiny half-yak cattle dotting domestic fields. Then we reached a magnificent col at nearly 14,000 feet and looked out over the view of mountains receding for miles. Mao Tse-tung and his revolutionaries crossed this range on the Long March in the mid-1930s. They *walked and fought* their way, *ill-clad*, ill-shod and ill-supplied, through the wild, inhospitable land to establish a new base in the north, away from Chiang Kai-shek's nationalists.

"I hear England is just like this," remarked Mr Liu as we gazed. He still looked surprised despite the certainty of his statement.

LAST RESORT
Taipei

Small rewards in a city of grime and noise

By Simon Calder

Taiwan, *they say, is shaped* like a teardrop. At the tip *is the island's biggest city*, Taipei. And the "provisional capital of the Republic of China" is truly a city to make you weep.

Since it became a bolt-hole for deposed Chinese nationalists fleeing the march of Mao in 1949, Taiwan has been performing economic miracles. But *when you step off the bus in* Taipei, the biggest miracle is that anyone would live there. Achieving rapid economic growth, it seems, involves spreading successive layers of grime and noise across a sprawling city of three million. The civic symbol of Taipei is the exhaust pipe.

Yet the tourist may find *that a couple of days of* poisonous fumes and aural anguish can bestow a series of small rewards.

Just east of Shih Lin underground station, for example, the proprietor of a statue shop has purloined designs from all over the world and strewn them across the roof of his premises: an equestrian Napoleon, a soldier raising the US flag after the battle of Okinawa, not forgetting a larger-than-lifesize Michelangelo's David. You can't miss it: just look for the miniature (but not very) Eiffel Tower on the roof.

Close by, the National Palace Museum is the city's most imposing building and has the most remarkable contents. The Imperial *Chinese art collection spent* years being shunted around mainland China to evade first Japanese troops, then Communism. So a small island with 20 million people finds itself with a collection vastly disproportionate to its size. *Among all the grandeur and* glitter is a series of cartoons *by one Lu Hung*, a hermit who drew cartoons that embrace art and poetry. So ornate is the calligraphy that the division between words and images is blurred with each deft, sharp stroke.

It is similarly difficult to determine what precisely you are going to have for lunch. Owners of the noodle *shops that lurk in every* alley will invite you to choose *your meal* – and in some cases meet it. Strange creatures (or parts thereof) wriggle about in vats. The vegetarian may not enjoy Taipei, but carnivores with more appetite than imagination may well.

Spiritual needs can be satisfied at the Lungshan temple, a tableau of *serenity. The calm* is shattered intermittently by *the shriek of a mobile* phone, whose owner immediately stops communing with deities and starts dealing. Taipei is a city of percentages, and no one wants to miss out on theirs.

FAR EAST: SURVIVAL GUIDE

Getting there

Air: All fares quoted include tax and are for travel in September. Direct flights are available to many Far East cities, but the price advantage of a connecting flight can be considerable. From Heathrow or Manchester to **Hong Kong**, for example, the *lowest fare quoted* by Airline Network (01772 727272) is £881 direct on Cathay Pacific but only £455 on Swissair via Zurich – nearly 50 per cent less. Specimen fares to other places: **Bangkok:** £365 on Aeroflot *through Quest Worldwide* (0181-547 3322). **Kuala Lumpur:** £405 on Bangladesh Biman through Jetline (0171-360 1111); KL or any other city in Peninsular Malaysia: £549 on Malaysia Airlines through *Trailfinders (0171-938 3939)*. **Manila:** £486 on Alitalia via Rome through STA Travel (0171-361 6262). **Peking** (Beijing): £422 on KLM through Asia Plus (0171-470 0708). **Taipei:** Only British Asia Airways flies direct from the UK. A lower fare of £605 is available on Swissair via Zurich, through Worldwide Journeys (0171-388 6000). It may be cheaper to fly to Hong Kong or Bangkok and get a connecting flight.

Rail: the trans-Mongolian and trans-*Manchurian* trains take about a week to get from Moscow to Beijing. It is worth booking through a specialist such as the China Travel Service *(0171-836 9911). This* agency has a set package which includes a night in a Moscow hotel and a sightseeing tour of *the Russian capital. In second* class, it costs £365 one way. The one-way flight on British Airways from London to Moscow is an additional £260.

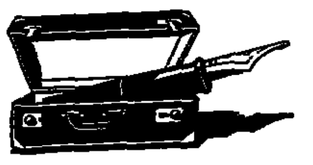
Red tape

British passport holders do not need visas for short visits to Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and *Thailand. All visitors to China* require a visa. Probably the easiest way to obtain one in the UK in advance is through the China Travel Service, 7 Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9DL (0171-836 9911). You *need a photo and a passport* with at least six months' validity. The visa allows one month in China. The cost is £35 (plus £5 "postage and packing"), but the company says it may be cheaper and easier to obtain a visa in Hong Kong if you are going there first. The CTS Hong Kong office is at 78-83 *Connaught Road*, Central (tel 00 852 853 3533; fax 00 852 541 9777).

Money

Sterling is readily converted, at a good rate, in Hong Kong, *Malaysia and Singapore. In* Thailand and the Philippines, the US dollar is preferable. Within China, Hong Kong dollars are often accepted in lieu of the local Yuan.

Alexandra Cockburn



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Bargain of the week

Air China is fixing 1997 holiday prices offered through its main agents at £450 return for travel in spring and autumn next year, the best seasons to visit the People's Republic, and £420 return for winter. These fares are not available from the airline direct, but *through discount agents such as* Regent Holidays (0117-921 1711). You *may find* agents more prepared to book domestic flights within China, since commission has just risen to three per cent – from zero.

WORLDCOVER

True or false

"Indonesia is a safe destination"

Decide for yourself. The following are edited highlights from the latest travel advice from the Foreign Office. These point out the *pockets of problems visitors* might encounter in this vast archipelago.

"*Indonesia is prone to earthquakes*, volcanic eruptions and other natural disasters. Avoid the following areas: the island of Krakatau, Mount Merapi and surrounding area in central Java; and Mount Marapi and its surrounding area in Bukittinggi, Sumatra.

"Visitors should exercise caution and keep away from the area in east central Jakarta where the violence has been concentrated. *The security situation in Aceh Province*, Sumatra has stabilised, but travel there by road at night is inadvisable.

"Be alert: there has been an increase in petty crime against foreigners.

"Visitors are advised against travel to Irian Jaya, where a guerilla movement (the OPM) is operating. There has been serious rioting in several of the bigger towns including Timika, Tembagapura and Jayapura. Further incidents cannot be ruled out.

"East Timor is generally quiet but the situation remains tense. There are isolated clashes between Indonesian troops and armed insurgents."

Call 0171-238 4503 for the full Foreign Office bulletin.

Trouble spots

Travellers' reports in the latest edition of *Planet Talk*, the free newsletter from Lonely Planet (0181-742 3161)

Thailand: Unscrupulous gem shop owners now use dishonest foreigners to help them lure naive travellers. Remember, there are no government gem-shops in Thailand.

Malaysia: While all places can be visited on the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia during the wet season [Oct-Feb], many resorts on the east coast are closed, with services to the east coast islands drastically reduced or non-existent.

China: Lijiang *in China's south*-west province of Yunnan is open again to travellers after February's earthquake. The government has made an effort to restore the quaint buildings of Dayan, but surrounding villages are still damaged.

South Korea: In Seoul, experience the monthly air-raid drill. It is fascinating to see a busy 14-lane highway become deserted in three minutes flat.

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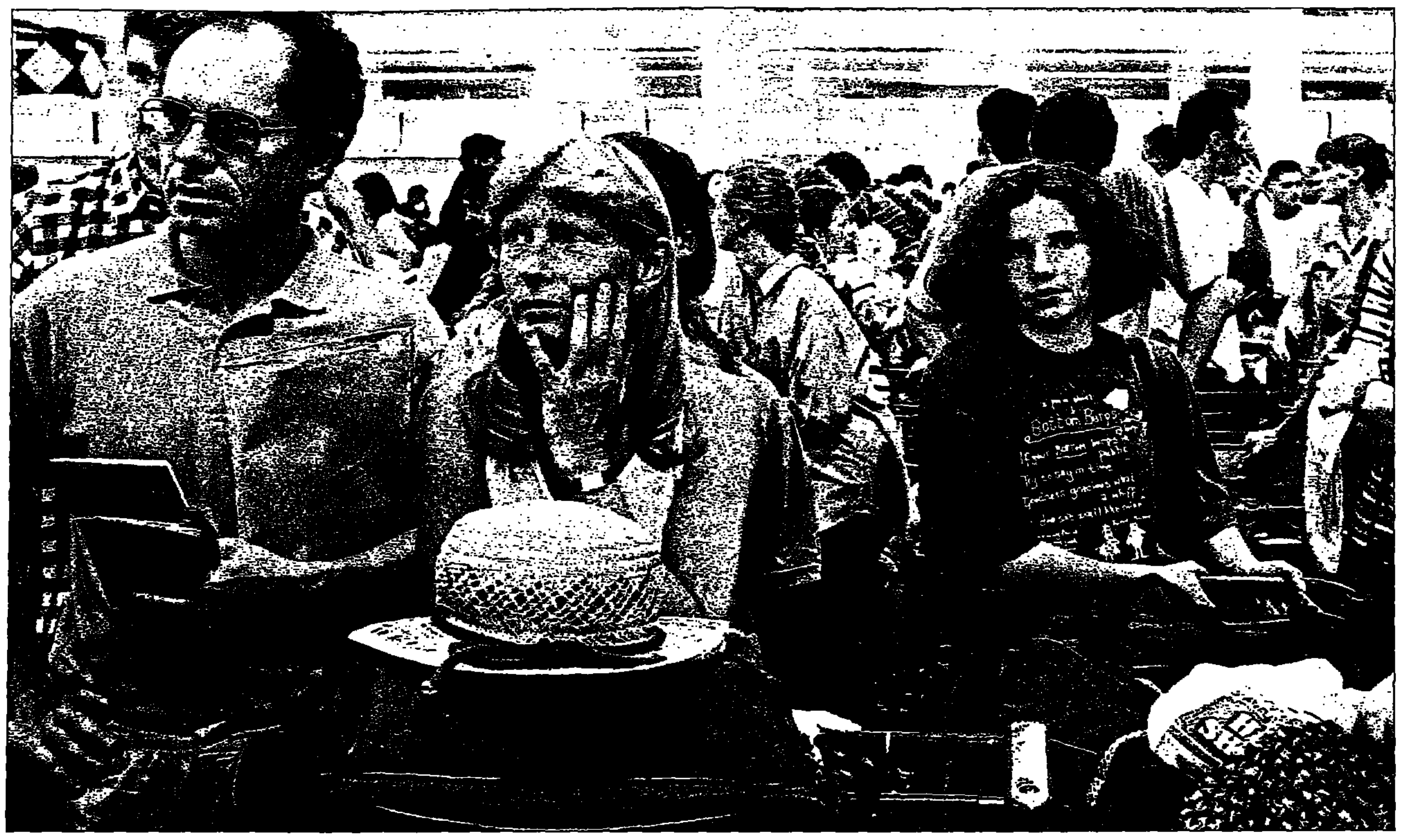
The flight that time forgot

In the week that a Laker Airways flight to Orlando was delayed by two days, Wendy Berliner was also stranded. It took her more than 53 hours to get back to Gatwick from Florida



Grounded and disgruntled: passengers wait to find out how long their flight will be delayed. But if we want ever-cheaper flights, we should expect attendant problems

It was 12.45pm on Tuesday when my husband, 10-year-old son and I cheerfully arrived at Sanford Airport in Orlando, Florida, ready to return home after our holiday. Half an hour later, at the front of the check-in queue, we were less cheerful. Our 4pm flight on Airtours International was to be six hours late, we were told. We were to be bussed to a hotel, given dinner and bussed back. Why was it late? Cumulative delays of other flights, they said.

The function room at the Hilton Hotel was packed with our fellow travellers sitting at round dinner tables spread with cloths but no cutlery. With children running around it looked like the end of a long wedding reception. As the afternoon progressed the children got noisier and space constraints meant we had to eat our dinner from plates on our laps in armchairs in the hotel's smart lobby.

Genuine guests of the hotel looked at our already crumpled T-shirts and shorts with distaste. Without work clothes, we had lost our status. We were clearly wearing out our welcome with the hotel managers. The buses began to arrive for us an hour early.

Back at the airport we were told the aircraft would be leaving at 9.30pm. Time ticked by. At 9.25pm there was an announcement – the flight was delayed by another 10 hours and we were to be taken back to the Hilton. Now the problem was that the aircraft had damaged its landing gear, and it was to be fixed. The plan was to get off the next morning.

Our luggage had been checked in and, in the wake of the TWA bombing, we were not getting it back. We were allowed access to it under supervision to remove articles for an overnight stay, and medicines. Then it was out into the hot, sticky Florida night, with exhausted children fretting and ratty parents snapping, to wait for the buses. They took an age to come. A disjointed flotilla of minibuses and coaches swallowing all 317 of us up at a painfully slow rate. It was 11.45pm before we landed in our hotel bedroom with me close to tears as a headache of monumental proportions appeared to be trying to punch my left eye out from the inside.

Breakfast was good. Then Robert, the very impressive young American from the guest relations firm used by Airtours took the microphone. He was direct and to the point. They were working hard to get us home. They hoped to get us off today. It wasn't likely. You could have heard a pin drop as the information hit home.

Yet there was no riot. People asked endless questions about how they could get messages home, what their travel insurance covered and why there were no drinks available when they had arrived at the Hilton the previous day.

We were told we could leave the hotel as long as we left our names with Lesley from Airtours. Amazingly, people began to smile. The sense of humour breakdown which had been in evidence since the previous day was obviously more correctable than the landing gear fault.

Back in the lobby it seemed less funny. A young mum, up all night because her overtired two year old and six year old could not sleep, wept. Someone said Airtours had tried to hire an aircraft to get us out but that other companies, knowing that Airtours was over a barrel with 317 people stranded at peak holiday season, were not offering cheap rates. The lowest offer had, apparently, been one million dollars for the day.

We were given a three-minute telephone card and 50 dollars emergency cash per person – which just about covered our phone calls (my husband and I were both due back in our offices).

We were given lunch, we killed time and money at the local mall, we were given dinner. Then we were bussed to the Sheraton for an overnight stay. There was not enough room for us all in the Hilton and they wanted to keep us together.

The buses began to arrive. One older woman suffering from asthma was taken to hospital. The strain was showing. The Sheraton had set up an emergency reception area in what appeared to be a nightclub so there were no overwrought, weary tourists to frighten off the real guests. We were told that we should get off first thing in the morning. A special repair team had been flown in from England, heavy lifting gear had been moved in from Miami – five hours away by road – to jack the 767 up on the tarmac and the repairs would go on through the night.

A plan emerged. There would either be a wake-up call at 6.30am or we would be told what was happening at breakfast. There was no wake up call. After breakfast we were told we should be taking off at 2pm but if that didn't happen there was a back up aircraft on its way and we would get off at 5pm.

We got off just gone 5pm to applause and cheers. At Belfast, where we stopped over, there were more cheers on landing. Then there was an announcement from the captain. A security alert had closed Gatwick for a time and we faced a two-hour delay. There were a few groans but the fortitude of most, not just then but throughout the whole ghastly business, was awesome. In the end this wait was only 45 minutes and we finally touched down at 8.05am on Friday morning, more than 53 hours late, with fulsome apologies from Airtours and £50 a head for every adult. Our nightmare was over – well not quite. The car, which we'd left at Gatwick, wouldn't start. Fortunately, the RAC was slightly quicker in rescuing us than Airtours had been. For next year's holiday, we'll drive.

A SUMMER OF DISCONTENT

In one week, two delays of more than 48 hours: Wendy Berliner's Orlando-Gatwick flightmare, described left, then the latterday Laker-haters whose trip to central Florida was preceded by two days in central Sussex. The hundreds of held-up holidaymakers deserve sympathy, but in a sense they are the inevitable victims of a system that provides flights to Florida for less than £300. The amazing thing about charter flights from Britain is that long waits are so infrequent.

You want cheaper flights than anyone else? Then you must understand that the system that provides them is stretched almost to the limit in August. Aircraft used by Britain's charter carriers are worked hard. They usually operate three round-trips to the Med each day compared with just two for holiday flights originating in Germany.

The third daily "rotation" helps save cash: consider the depreciation on your £10,000 car, then multiply that by 5,000 to imagine how expensive it is to finance a medium-sized jet. Night flights are sold of cheap, but the revenue still helps the airline to defray the depreciation. My dawn flight from Gatwick to Corfu, returning at 2am, was a win-win arrangement for everyone except people living near the respective runways. Working close to the edge inevitably means that when something goes wrong, it can go very wrong. When trying to send 300 people to Florida, there are as many possible causes for delay as passengers.

First, you have to get all the passengers, preferably sober, on to the aircraft. One reason airlines often reveal a delay only at the airport is because they need to gather everyone together for immediate departure once the plane is ready. All the luggage has to be on board, too. While the bar-code sorting used at bigger airports works well, one in 10 bags has to be screened separately as part of a random security check. Sometimes the screened luggage arrives late, and the take-off slot is missed. Bad news, indeed.

The skies above the UK are full of overflying aircraft. Your charter to Florida has to slot in with the Amsterdam to Atlanta and Berlin to Boston flights, ushered around by air traffic controllers from Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Canada and the US. If your plane misses its cue in this complex choreography, there will definitely not be another one along in a minute. On long flights, for example to the US West Coast, there is the risk that the crew may not be able to complete the trip within their permitted hours – their day is deemed to begin when they check in, not when they take off. So passengers can find themselves offloaded from a perfectly healthy plane while a new crew is sought – no easy matter when everyone is working their inflight socks off.

The most serious delays, as Wendy Berliner and her family discovered, result from mechanical problems. Passengers should celebrate the fastidiousness of British and US airlines and their pilots. Anything that could jeopardise safety is enough to ground a plane. The Airtours and Laker delays, each the result of faults, probably cost each airline around £250,000 and some attendant bad publicity. But as the old aviation saying goes: if you think safety is expensive, try having an accident.

Simon Calder

What Wendy does next

The short answer is "not much" – except claim on travel insurance, if it specifically covers delays. The same goes for Laker passengers who spent two days of their holiday at Gatwick.

The "fair trading agreement" that Wendy accepted when she booked the Airtours holiday has typical small print. It limits the scope of any claim she might make against the company. Condition 7 states: "In the event of any delay, we will try to reduce the discomfort suffered by you by providing additional services, subsistence and accommodation. We cannot accept any liability for any payment incurred ... nor for any time lost on your holiday."

Airtours' brochure goes on to detail what the company will provide: after three hours, you qualify for a "light refreshment"; after six hours, a proper meal; and after nine hours, "meals and accommodation appropriate for the time of day or night".

Wendy had insurance which is similar to Airtours' own policy. This provides delay cover of £25 for each 12-hour delay after the first 12 hours, so she assumed that topping 48 hours would earn an extra £25. But Airtours has written to her travel agent saying that departure was scheduled for 9.30pm, not the 4pm as shown on her ticket.

The scheduled departure time is being disputed with Airtours. But beyond the insurance, any further claim for lost wages or out-of-pocket expenses is unlikely to succeed: first because of that fair trading agreement, second because of the ex-gratia payment of £50 that Airtours made to each adult passenger on arrival.

The only successful claim I have made was against a Canadian charter airline, Air TransAt, after three dismal days in Toronto. I put the cheque towards a flight to Georgetown, Guyana. The elaborate itinerary, involving stops in Madrid and Caracas, began with a short hop to Paris. It arrived three hours late, at the wrong airport. And after that, things really deteriorated.

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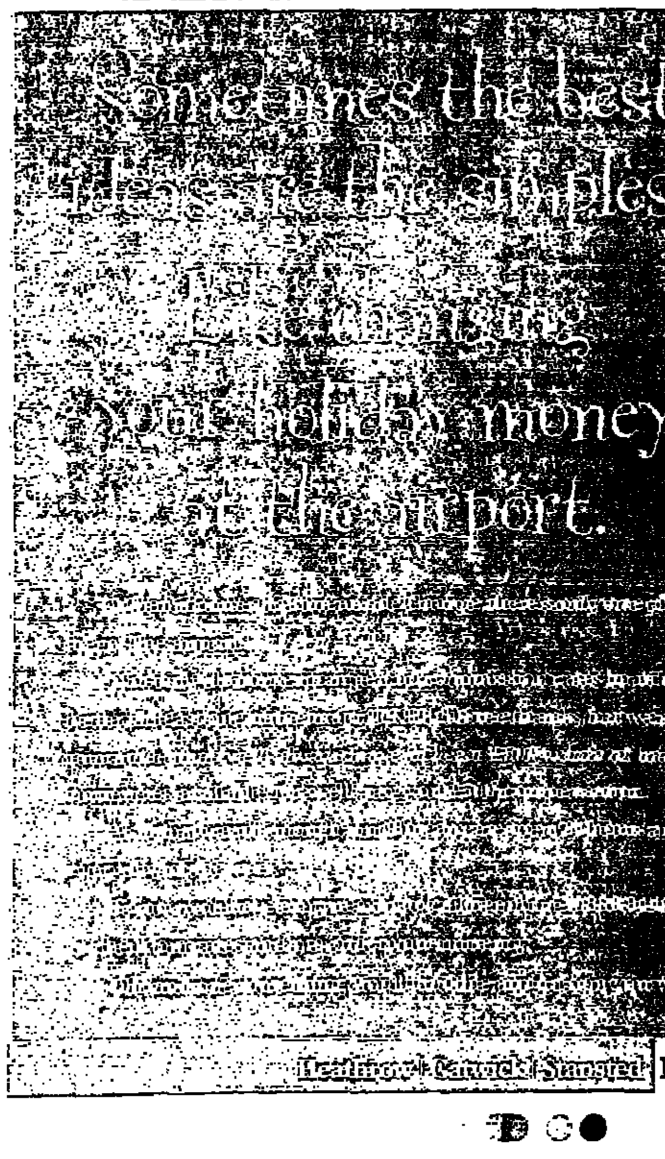
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The easy way to let off steam

Sarah Cowen and family visit Bressingham Steam Museum

A stress-free day out for the family

Picture Brian Harris

The venue

Bressingham Steam Museum and Gardens is a non-culinary version of hot custard and cold rice pudding. It's got that delicious, if inedible, combination of contradictory terms which blend to form something surprisingly special. It's where flower power meets steam *power resulting in family entertainment with the nos*talgic flavour.

Steam trains and perennials may sound as though they come from opposite sides of the track but in the landscape of East Anglia's far-reaching flatlands they have proved a winning double act. Founded by the world-famous horticulturist Alan Bloom. Bressing*ham is home to three narrow-gauge railways which* wind their way for more than five miles through its gardens, woods and meadows (including the glorious Dell Garden with 47 beds of enviable colour).

Alan Bloom is now in his 90th year but his youthful enthusiasm for plants and steam is reflected in the relaxed family atmosphere of the gardens in Diss, Norfolk. The antidote to white-knuckle ride theme parks, there is nothing faster at Bressingham than the steam menagerie of ostriches, decorated horses and cockerels.

There is an adventure playground and an indoor museum with an impressive collection of steam power. And right next door to the museum is the Bressingham Plant Centre with thousands of plant varieties to choose from.

The pace is laid back and an admission and rides *ticket will allow you unlimited trips on the trains in* operation, plus two rides on the roundabout when it is open.

Nicola Swanborough

The visitors

Sarah Cowen from Claydon in Suffolk visited Bressingham Steam Museum and Gardens with her four children: Susannah, nine; Freddie, seven; Henry, five; and Eliza, three.

Susannah: "A lot of children would find it quite boring if their mum took them round a garden cen*tre, but Bressingham is really great fun. You don't* have to spend ages walking though the gardens, you can just sit back on the trains and see everything in comfort. And the flowers are really pretty.

There are lakes, too, with the most amazing fish which you can feed, but you have to be very careful if you have little ones with you in case they fall in. I would recommend *keeping them on a rein. We did* lose my brother and could only find his lunch box, but it all turned out OK in the end. He hadn't fallen in the lake after all.

There are lots of places to buy ice creams and there's a café and souvenir shop so it's good for spending pocket money. The museum is fun especially if it rains as you can go inside and get nice and dry.

Sarah: "Bressingham is one of those rare treats which *provides an effortless combination of fun for all the* family. I'm a keen gardener but with four young children there aren't many opportunities to browse round garden centres: potted plants and perennials don't tend to be high on the children's list of things to see. Bressingham is different though.

The network of steam trains and the gardens and *plants are the perfect package for a family* day out. All my children from the three-year-old to the nine-year-old just love riding through the open fields and landscaped gardens aboard the miniature trains – and I relish the pleasure of having a bird's eye view of the acres of endless plants.

It tends to be a very sensory experience with the *lovely perfume of the flowers mingling with the nos*talgic, sooty steam from the trains. It's one of those addictive holiday smells that childhood memories are made of. There is also something quietly magical about being able to cross the Suffolk-Norfolk border on a steam train.

The atmosphere of the place is very relaxed and *stress-free. The children don't spend their time pan*icking about what they're going to go on next. They seem to respond to the slower pace of steam and are happy to meander and wave across the fields to passengers on the other trains.

There is plenty of space for them to run around and let off their own steam too, so with so much on offer they are then quite happy to behave for half an hour while I look around the plant centre.

The deal

Location : Bressingham Steam Museum and Gardens is 2 1/2 miles west of Diss and 14 miles east of Thetford on the A1066.
Access: good accessibility for disabled and for babies *in buggies. "You don't need an army of parents to* get the children and buggies on and off the trains – there are plenty of cheerful, helpful staff to assist," says Sarah Cowen.
Toilets: good if basic. Special room set aside for mothers and babies, suitable for nappy changing.
Facilities: café, souvenir shop and a number of ice cream vans. Queuing *minimal*.
Cost: Admission only £3.90 (adult), £3.20 (senior/student), £2.40 (child 4-16). £12 (family, 2 adults and up to three children). Admission and rides £7 (adult), £6.30 (senior/student), £5 (child), £22 (family). "It's not cheap but you get good value for your money," says Sarah.
Opening times: 10.30am-5.30pm, with last admission at 4.30pm. The museum and Dell Garden pro*gramme operates until 3 November. There are two* trains running every day. On Thursdays and Sundays and during holiday periods the carousel and third train operate. The plant centre is open throughout the year.
Special events: 3-4 Aug 10th annual fire engine rally; 10-11 Aug steam in miniature rally, 17-18 Aug Friends of Thomas weekend, 24-25 Aug Caravan Club rally.

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Erddig, near Wexham, Clwyd (01978 355314). A National Trust property with landscaped gardens, an orchard – and the National Collection of Ivy. A *tour* through the outbuildings and servants rooms gives an intriguing insight into life below stairs. The gardens are open 10am-6pm, the Hall from 12 noon-5pm Sat-Wed. A family ticket is £8.50.

Croxteth Hall and Country Park, Merseyside (0151 2285311), has woodlands, gardens, and an adventure playground – open 11am-5pm daily. Thursday 15 August is a good day to visit as children can join a pond dip to search out the park's small amphibians. The search sets out at 2.30pm; £1.50 for accompanying adults 75p children but tickets are selling fast…

Hawkstone Park (01939 200611), near Shrewsbury in Shropshire, has a collection of follies dotted around acres of parkland. Children can clamber up 152 steps of a towering monument, tuck themselves away in a *hermitage*, and play in a gingerbread hall. The park is open daily from 10am until 6pm (last admission 4pm) and a family ticket is £12.00, or £4.50 adults and £2.50 children.

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On the trail of the horse thieves

Theft in the horse world has increased so much that Scotland Yard has set up a special equine crime unit. By Jonathan Green

Last week, in a case of suspected poisoning, a third horse fell ill at Burley Hill Stud Farm in the Peak District. Two other thoroughbreds there have recently died. The incidents highlight the growing problem of equine crime across the country.

Looking the length of an empty paddock to the stable, it was with dread that one horse owner realised the significance of the door left expertly opened, hooked flush to the wall. It meant those who had opened it knew enough about handling horses not to take them through an unfastened door which might swing back in the wind to startle or wound them. Hoof marks leading to trailer tracks indicated that professional horse thieves don't only roam the Wild West, rustlers also target Kent.

"I was so shocked friends say I was like a zombie for weeks," said Karen, recalling the time when she discovered that her piebald mare and pony had been stolen. When interviewed, she witheld her surname and even asked that her Christian name be changed since she fears repercussions from the thieves.

Her horses were recovered, thanks to a national network of horse owners who swung into action, disseminating information on Karen's animals with military precision. Representatives of Horsewatch pressed hard on the heels of the thieves, reporting back sightings of the animals as they changed hands through dealers from London to Wales and then as far afield as Cornwall. Six weeks later Karen's horse and pony were back home, safely bolted behind the stable door while recuperating from an ordeal that left them under-nourished and maltreated.

Around 150 horses are stolen annually, meanwhile theft of saddles, bridles and other tack is on the increase – and a multi-million pound trade has developed. The theft of horse boxes and trailers has reached such proportions that some police forces have had identification numbers painted on their roofs to enable them to be detected from police helicopters.

In the latest move to thwart the thieves, Equus, the Equine Crime Unit Computer Information System, has been set up at New Scotland Yard in London and will be officially launched in September. The database of the Equine Crime Prevention Unit, this provides a significant resource for Horsewatch schemes around the country by recording pictures and details of horses and tack. In Karen's case, for example, equine crime specialist PC Hugh Davies circulated pictures of her animals among horse dealers in London and from this came the first leads to their whereabouts.

Photograph: Brian Harris

PC Davies explains, "Contrary to popular belief, the majority of horse owners are not wealthy people. They are giving up huge amounts of time and money to keep horses, and if their animals are stolen it can be heart breaking. We realised this was an area where the police can have a real impact working with the public."

This successful partnership has already brought about an increase – from little over 20 per cent to 52 per cent – of recovered stolen horses. It's a statistic that delights Fiona Milligan, secretary of the National Committee of Horsewatch Representatives. "Considering they steal horses at night by loading up in the field and are then the other end of the country by the next morning, we are doing well with our national network," she says. "Usually it is the all-round family cob horse or pony that is rustled," she adds, keen to displace the myth that only famous racehorses like Shergar are stolen. "Racehorses and thoroughbreds are too well documented and are too flashy, attracting attention."

Although successes have been made over animal theft, stolen tack continues to be a chronic problem. "Tack theft and resale has become a massive business. I have fax paper curled up on the floor like spaghetti from people whose tack has been stolen," Fiona Milligan comments.

Most stolen property will go through a horse market, a sort of equine car boot sale. PC Davies works in plain clothes at Southall horse market in west London, where horse dealers from around the country trade in both livestock and tack. Weather-beaten men in cloth caps and bushy sideboards lean on sticks, try not to look too many horses in the mouth and haggle over prices. The scene could be pre-war Britain except for the constant chirrup of mobile phones. "All the dealers know I am Old Bill," says PC Davies, "but some help out and we have had lots of arrests for stolen tack at Southall as well as leads to where stolen horses have been seen at sales in other areas."

Convictions are extremely rare, though. Ownership is hard to prove as no registration documents are needed when you buy a horse. DNA testing is the only sure-fire way of proving ownership of unmarked animals. The police normally find stolen horses in deserted fields and the villains deny all knowledge. Proving otherwise is virtually impossible. And, as in Karen's case, stolen animals change hands several times. Tack, which is largely unmarked, presents similar problems. "Arresting anybody is very hard and this is why we try to go more for crime prevention," says PC Davies.

In the long term, horse theft is also being halted by freeze-marking animals. The company Farmkey freeze-marked 134,000 animals last year. Other schemes include micro-chip implants and hoof branding. To combat tack theft the Metropolitan Police has designed its own marking system and PC Davies is hopeful it will be introduced around the country by other forces.

"OK we're not the Sweeney," he concedes, "but without sounding melodramatic, getting horses back to their owners, they say, is like us returning a member of their family."

A showjumper? That'll be £500,000

From ponies with one foot in the knackers yard to top showjumpers, horse prices can vary from as little as £50 to £500,000 and more. But it's leisure horses used by ordinary members of the public with a value of under £5000 that are targets for thieves, according to the police. On average, a well-mannered pony for all-round riding and gymkhana could fetch between £500 and £2,000. A horse capable of carrying an adult man fox hunting for the day, would cost around £3,750 to £5,500.

Saddles are the most expensive items targeted in growing cases of tack theft. They can be quickly shifted. New they are worth around £500, with specialist saddles costing between £700 and £800. Bridles go for between £60-£80 and sundries which include grooming kits, bandages, leg protectors, head collars and rugs can all be worth between £300-£500. More blatant thieves will also take horse trailers worth £1,000 second-hand and horse boxes worth £2,500.

Away we pedalled, like a multi-coloured snake wriggling through the streets

DUFF HART-DAVIS

"Who's got pole position?" cried the Mayor of Llanwrtyd Wells merrily from the steps of the Victoria Hall. His necklace of medallions flashed as he beamed down on us. "I hope we shall see you all again sometime. But now it's my pleasure to say 'GO!'"

Away we went. Not all at once, because that would have been impossible with 167 bikes in the confines of a small Welsh spa town, but in a steadily-elongating, multi-coloured snake, which wriggled off through the streets and out into the surrounding hills on a cool, grey morning.

So began Day 13 of the Belfast-to-Land's End trail-blazing ride organised by Sustrans, the Bristol-based charity which is creating the National Cycle Network. If last year's ride, from Inverness to Dover, was an immense success, this year's is proving a triumphal progress: more people are taking part, and support from local organisations along the route is immeasurably greater.

Thus, as we pedalled southwards, people spoke in awe of the terrific spread laid on the previous evening by the Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council. Such were the mountains of sandwiches and cakes that not even the army of ravenous bikers had been able to finish them.

People also spoke grimly of the weather they had been through. The opening ceremony, outside the City Hall in Belfast, took place in a torrential deluge, and the rain on the first days had been so fierce that it beat the oil out of chains and gear-wheels, with the result that several machines seized up.

For me, the greatest pleasure lay in the unfailing friendliness of my fellow-riders: although groups were constantly changing as people moved up and down the line, everybody was ready to talk.

The bikers could hardly have been more diverse in origin and nature. Chris Le Breton, an environmental officer with the European Commission, had come from Brussels, where he devises management programmes for the Black, Caspian and Aral Seas. One of the most resolute (but also most decorative) cyclists was Emily Shirley, riding a tandem with her two-and-a-half-year-old son Finbar perched on a little seat just behind the handlebars, her eight-year-old daughter Meg pounding on specially built-up pedals behind.

The machines were equally heterogeneous, from bone-shaker to state of the art. Malcolm Brenchley, a retired dental surgeon from Devon, and his wife Vera had spent £2,500 on a new tandem. Cynthia Kirby, a great-grandmother from Norwich, was giving a first run to her custom-built Bike Friday, which had cost her £1,500.

As we whirred down a minor road on the east bank of the Wye, I had breath for a chat with Phil Insall, a leading light of Sustrans. He described how the organisation, gavlanised by a grant of £43.5 million from the Millennium Fund, had expanded furiously over the past year, and how the target of a national network is now definitely within reach. As originally proposed, the network was 5000 miles long. Now, because so many local authorities want to be included, it has been extended to 6,500 miles. The aim is that half should be on road, half on traffic-free paths also open to pedestrians. The cost will be about £190 million. Nearly half should be finished by the year 2000, the rest by 2005.

In such a gathering, nobody much likes cars. The Pollution Solution proclaimed the backs of several T-shirts – and the only altercation I witnessed came when a white van shot over the brow of a hill so fast that it had to do an emergency stop. Although nobody was hit or hurt, the driver began abusing us for blocking the road – but within seconds he was surrounded by a swarm of bikers, who saw him off as smartly as if they had been bees.

At Hay the ride split. Half went on over the fearsome Gospel Pass and down to Abergavenny; the rest of us took a gentler route to Brecon, which we approached as evening sun gilded the ridges of the Beacons high on our left, and we came to rest at last with 52 miles behind us.

It was a tragedy for all concerned that Geoff Hamilton, presenter of BBC TV's *Gardeners' World*, should have died of a heart attack during this stage last Sunday. Millions will mourn him and his death inevitably cast a shadow over the ride. But Sustrans will pedal on; and when the cavalcade rolls into Penzance next weekend, the great goal of a complete national network will be that much closer.

It that a ferret in your trousers?

Hopefully not. It's an indignity to them, as Daniel Butler finds out

Throughout the summer, thousands of onlookers will watch a succession of lithe brown and albino bodies pouring through drainpipes. Amid whoops of encouragement, every now and again there is a glimpse of a furry back or a pink nose until suddenly the victor emerges, some 20 yards from the start.

It is then that the amusement turns to confusion as owners affectionately clasp the animals to their chests. "But aren't ferrets smelly, vicious beasts?" comes the inevitable cry at every country-fair ferret race.

I should know. Although I don't race my pets, I can't count how often I have met this reaction to Mrs Peel, Purdy and Steed. Equally predictable is the follow-up: "I suppose you put them down your trousers?"

No of course I don't – I have far too much respect for ferrets to submit them to that indignity. Having shared the last three decades with these domesticated members of the weasel family, my admiration knows no bounds. They are loyal, friendly, clean and endlessly amusing.

The charge of viciousness is unjustified. True, they are carnivores with teeth to match, but in 22 years I have only been seriously nipped twice and both times it was my fault. Normally they are calm and friendly: the other day, for example, I found that my two-year old son had unlocked a hutch and was gripping Purdy in a neck-lock while his other hand clutched a tiny kit. Disturbing the maternal instinct of any creature is unwise, but I was more concerned for my pets than the toddler. Fortunately both were unharmed and Jack's fingers are still intact.

Photograph: Christopher Jones

This is typical: far from vicious, ferrets are friendly and playful. After all, they are closely related to otters, and – like Mij in *Ring of Bright Water* – love games. This frivolity is common to most carnivores. Play is nature's way of honing skills for short, nutritionally-rewarding hunts (in contrast, herbivores spend their waking hours eating or fleeing). And it is this playful nature that makes ferrets much better pets for children than timid rabbits or guinea pigs.

Smell, that other criticism, is more difficult to counter. Ferrets certainly have a musty odour which many find unpleasant, but I prefer to label it "distinctive". This has nothing to do with poor hygiene (ferrets are scrupulously clean and always use the same latrine), but is characteristic of all weasels – most famously in skunks.

I do have to confess to one hidden drawback, however: reproduction. Ferrets are extremely prolific and, given the general conviction that a fondness for ferrets requires baggy trousers and a carefree attitude towards one's wedding tackle, disposing of my two current litters is proving tricky. There's no problem persuading children of their appeal – it's prejudiced adults who are the problem. So far I have located just one teenager whose parents are reluctantly allowing the experiment. That leaves 18 to go.

Ferret racing this summer:
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15 August: Denbighshire and Flintshire Show, Denbigh (01352 712131)
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The Kings wanted peace and a good view, so they moved to Cornwall. But are they seen as locals or holidaymakers?

By Penny Jackson

The great escape: Elaine and Graham King outside their house near Padstow Photograph: David Brenchley

Under cloudless blue skies, we looked down over the sparkling Camel estuary. Boats and the odd cyclist were the only signs of movement; the only sounds those of birds and sheep. This is Betjeman country, and the kind of scene Graham and Elaine King had only dared to imagine when they decided to move from Surrey to Cornwall. Now they have found it, they cannot imagine living anywhere else. "A good day for us is to get some work done, then sit in the peace of the garden. We never get tired of the view because it constantly changes with the tides and the seasons," says Mrs King from the sitting room of their early Victorian farmhouse near Padstow.

It easy to see how people return from holiday with similar picture-postcard views of life to mull over during the worst moments of urban living. But while most of us comfort ourselves with the thought that our Edwardian semis have the edge over a stone cottage in a February force 10, there are those – like the Kings – who want to make their escape permanent.

"We had a cottage in Port Isaac and found we were spending more and more time there. We used to come down in the middle of winter, so we knew it at its quietest. There seemed no reason why we couldn't run our graphic design business just as easily from north Cornwall as Surbiton," Graham King explains. Indeed he is very much the kind of incomer Cornwall welcomes, even if the locals might have referred to him disparagingly as an "emmet" – a tourist.

Graham King Advertising produces brochures for local enterprises and – as someone who arrived with his own small business – Mr King is particularly encouraged. According to David Pattison, the economic development officer for the County Council, "Cornwall is gaining more people than it has jobs because it is perceived as an attractive place to live with a high quality of life."

Mr King would find it hard to put a price on such a way of living: "I work intensely for a period, but when I stop I can be out in my boat fishing within minutes. It is glorious. When we decided to move to Cornwall we knew we wanted an old house with a garden, a sea view and in a tranquil but not isolated spot."

Unsurprisingly it took a while to find this perfect package. Months passed before the Kings fell upon their house by chance. "We drove down this lane to see where it led and saw work going on in the house. It obviously wasn't being lived in but the builder who owned it didn't want to sell. A few months later he changed his mind," says Elaine King. "The first thing we did was to stop him doing anything further to the house. All the old floors had been smashed up so there was nothing but concrete. We arrived in a horrendously cold winter and had nothing but an electric frying pan, a microwave and two duvets to keep warm." Now, though, lovely Cornish slate floors have been restored and the small dairy turned into an office.

The Kings' most exciting discovery has been a rare medieval Culverhouse, or pigeon house. As we made our way down through sun-parched grass to where it nestled, like a vast crumbling beehive above the water's edge, Mr King described how they found it. "It was covered in brambles and ivy and someone had built a corrugated shed over it. Inside were two oildrums filled with decaying fish. But we guessed the place was special and have traced it back to the 13th century." It is now listed, and is being made good, under the auspices of English Heritage.

Historical gems are not usually high on the list of those moving to the south west. The Cornish firm, John Bray & Partners from Rock ("Chelsea by the Sea" as they call it) find the demand for holiday homes has increased this year. While Richard Carslake of Strutt & Parker has noticed a steady build-up of people moving into the area – many of those semi-retired returning to their roots. "The differential has returned and the West Country is showing good value. Anyone moving from an old rectory near Newbury to one in Devon should be pocketing some money," he says.

For Knight Frank, the greatest demands in Cornwall are for holiday complexes. The agent currently has a waiting list of 200. And as Graham and Elaine King are aware, Cornwall almost has a year-round holiday season. Their quiet winters seem to shrink annually.

So when does a holidaymaker become a local? When the pub stops charging you a tourist rate or when you are included in discussions about ghastly trippers? "We feel local, but I expect they still call us emmets behind our backs", laughed Graham King.

Househunter

Golant-by-Fowey, Cornwall

Anyone longing to escape to the south-west but unsure of how to make a living could turn their thoughts to wine. Hybadore in southern Cornwall, a small vineyard with a main house and outbuildings, is for sale as a going concern. It produces the St Sampson wines which have won various awards. The vineyard, which is in the estuary village of Golant-by-Fowey, is centred around a main house converted from a Victorian dairy. One wing of the house is at present let as a holiday cottage. Hybadore has about five acres under vine and produces 3,000 bottles a year as well as 3,000 bottles of cider from local apples. Golant is about three miles from the harbour town of Fowey. The guide price is £350,000 to £400,000 (Knight Frank in Exeter: 01392 423111).

For what it's worth

Speculative buyers have returned to central London, according to Savills, and although they may expect to see capital growth within one to five years rather than a matter of weeks, it looks as if profit motive is fuelling price increases. Yolande Barnes, of Savills Research Department, sees strong parallels with '86/87, with prime central London leading and other markets following. "Unfortunately people have very short memories and after every single slump, the comment reads that the market will never boom again." In 1990 people ditched second homes, she said, now they are buying them again.

Meanwhile, Berkeley Manhattan, launched the first phase in the redevelopment of the 1920s home of the then Metropolitan Water Board. Public service once required a status of sweeping staircases and fine detail. Bronze main doors lead into a vast marble Art Deco hall which will remain as it is. So far, 28 out of the first 43 flats have been sold with prices starting at about £170,000.

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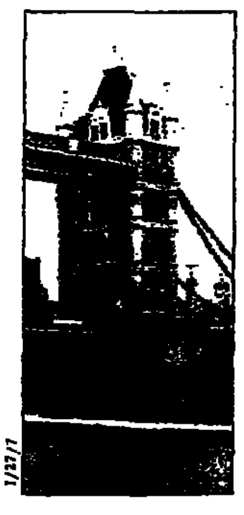

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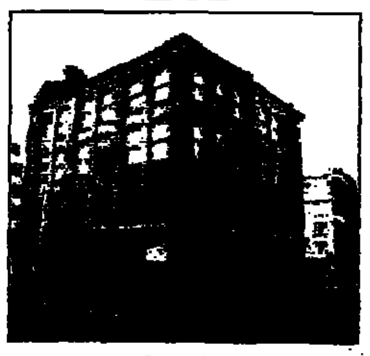

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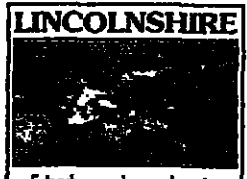

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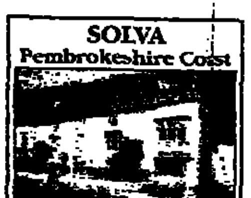

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JUSTIN URQUHART-STEWART
INVESTMENTS

The market moving up and down in this swell does not necessarily mean we are about to disappear over Victoria Falls. Keep your eyes on the horizon and look for opportunities

"Summertime and the market is squeasy" are the words that City traders might be humming as they stare at their screens. After the great performance of last year, the stock market in 1996 has been rocking up and down in a rather sickly swell without any real direction. In fact the FT-SE 100 index had moved up only 22 points up to the end of July, compared with 410 points for the equivalent period last year.

This apparent dullness however is belied by the volatility that has been going on, with the index reaching as high as 3,857 in April, and after all there have been some quite significant market events carrying on in the meantime.

These have included, for example, the two last major privatisations of Railtrack and British Energy, the continuing takeover battles among the utility companies and the frothing of a seemingly never ending list of new issues. All this designed to keep us paying attention.

We have also seen this froth being blown away as market jitters caused difficulties for flotations like Somerfield and Dairy Crest. Even the trendy sectors of the market seem to have lost their style, with the fashionable biotech companies taking on some of the sartorial elegance of Harold Steptoe.

Recently we have heard the sirens of doom relishing our fear and calling out their prophecies of impending market catastrophe. At the risk of joining the Michael Fish forecasting club, there seems little likelihood of such an occurrence with the current set of economic indicators unless we founder on some unseen reef.

The main factor that is affecting our market is the concern over something yet to happen – namely the impending general election. Inevitably, until we have all decided who is going to run the country, the market, in the absence of anything else, is likely to drift.

Of course there are other issues which will continue to affect us. The most notable of these at present is the New York market, which unlike ourselves has powered on this year to record highs boosted by the enthusiasm for high technology stocks and the continuing flow of investment money pouring into the mutual fund houses.

Most of this money has, it seems, been invested in the market. But here is a key indicator to watch. Any sniff that these mutual fund giants have that their returns may be falling with equities and they would start redirecting money into cash accounts and bonds. That could halt the rise.

If they are still nervous they could start to transfer monies out of equities. That in turn will start a fall. And what might trigger this? Mr Greenspan at the Fed, who is their equivalent of Steady Eddie, but without the Canny Ken to counterbalance him.

If Mr Greenspan thinks that the US economy is growing too fast then he would have little hesitation in raising rates. The forthcoming autumn presidential election in the US is probably quite irrelevant to his thinking.

So what effect does that have on us? The traditional mantra is that if New York sneezes, we catch a cold. It should not, however, necessarily be so in this case. This time if they sneeze, we should consider a sniff. The Dow has risen over 500 points this year, compared to our paltry 22, and any decline should be proportionately smaller here.

Another issue affecting the market sentiment is inevitably the level of our own interest rates. The retail spending recovery and housing improvements have already been well flagged. If, however, these are judged to be too strong then the pressure for a rise from the Bank of England will be significant, although no doubt strongly argued against by Mr Clarke.

In my view, though, even if the rates do rise it should not have a major impact. The economy is growing steadily, inflation is low and corporates are showing good if not record levels of profitability. Even better, this looks as though it should continue. Such steady situations seem all too rare, and unfortunately it means that the market will continue to rock steadily up and down, and won't find a clear direction. In that case the result can be tiresome. The market could get bored and start to look to emotional issues and as a result could get itself into a tizzy over minor snippets of information which may have little bearing on the real value of the market.

So from an investor's perspective it could look dull, but don't be fooled. If the market is moving in a range of some 150-250 points, this means that there are likely to be some particularly good buying opportunities and if the volatility continues, some selling ones as well, thus allowing the active investors to pick up some good trading profits. Even if the new issues are less popular, there will be some attractive price movements in easily tradeable stocks in the top 250.

We have seen City pundits talking of a possible slide in the FT-SE 100 to 3,500 or below, while others expect it to test 4,000. By the end of the year it is quite likely, subject to elections, budgets and so on, that we will be still close to where we are now – to within, say, 150 points.

So the market moving up and down in this swell does not necessarily mean that we are all about to disappear over the Victoria Falls. Keep your eyes on the horizon and look for the opportunities.

A plea for distribution

An old stand-by is worth investigating, says Isabel Berwick

A look through the financial press shows that guaranteed high-income bonds are the current darlings of the investment industry. You're offered a minimum annual income, usually over a five-year term. Any bonus on top of this is linked to stock market performance. With interest rates at a 60-year low, it isn't surprising that "guaranteed" returns of 10 per cent or more a year attract thousands of investors.

Sun Life's technical manager Brian Richards has seen it all before: "The market goes in cycles. Guaranteed stock market bonds are now big sellers, but not necessarily without the risk of eating into your capital." Three or four years ago it was the market for distribution bonds that was booming. Now they are out of fashion.

Distribution bonds are worth investigating however if you want to abandon the building society without much risk to your capital. All the distribution bond funds are set up in broadly the same way. They should be held for at least 10 years to get the best out of them. The aim is to provide an annual income, on average 5 per cent of your investment, combined with protection for the capital and some growth.

The average investment in distribution bonds is between £10,000 and £15,000. Most demand a £5,000 minimum investment. Payments are made twice a year and income can be taken or reinvested to buy a bigger stake in the fund. If you need payment stability you can opt for a fixed cash sum, or a fixed percentage of your investment instead of a variable bonus. But if you need to maintain a high income you have to be prepared to cash in some of your capital units.

The first distribution bond fund was designed by Sun Life in 1979. The company still dominates the market, with more than 100,000 investors holding a total of £2bn in the fund. Several other life companies, including Prudential, Allied Dunbar and Clerical Medical, have set up their own distribution bond funds. You won't see them advertised – most of the business comes through the companies' own sales forces and independent financial advisers.

Each distribution fund manager builds a portfolio designed to balance income-producing securities – such as gilts – against the need to protect capital through some long-term growth. Up to half the money will be held in equities. It's wise to check the portfolio mix before you buy.

Sun Life's Brian Richards says: "Some companies have chosen investments that perform well in the short term in order to make their mark in the market." Sun Life, for example, won't put money into property investments. But Allied Dunbar is bullish about commercial property. "Our managers feel it is outperforming the market," says Peter Kelly, the company's investment product development manager.

If you are wary of stock market investment, look for a fund with a low holding in equities and a high percentage of gilts, cash and fixed-interest investments. An even more cautious option for those who don't need to take an income is an investment in a life company's with-profits fund.

Your money will be held in a broad range of investments but the annual bonus given by the insurance company won't reflect the real income from the portfolio. Instead the insurance company will smooth performance over the good and bad years, and there is usually a final bonus when you cash in the investment. Funds run by life companies have built-in life cover. If you die your investment will be protected by a guarantee. This will usually state that it can be sold for its original value, plus any growth.

The disadvantage of all insurance funds is that, unlike unit trusts, they are subject to income and capital gains tax. So the income paid to investors is already taxed at the basic 24 per cent rate. This is useful for basic rate taxpayers, who can take 5 per cent a year with no tax to pay. But non-taxpayers and those on the 20 per cent rate can't claim their extra interest back. Higher-rate payers could face up to 16 per cent tax on the income from the fund when they sell their holding or if they take an income of more than 5 per cent a year from their investment.

Distribution bonds are worth considering as part of your savings plan, and they are very popular as a means to boost retirement income. But there are alternatives. Independent financial adviser Mark Dampier, of Avon-based Churchill Investments, isn't a great fan of insurance company bonds: "Many people get sold distribution bonds but a distribution unit trust is more tax-efficient. The income from unit trusts is higher than from bond funds, there's no capital gains tax paid and the funds can be put in a personal equity plan."

One reason why distribution bonds rather than similar unit trusts get sold is that the commission paid to independent advisers on a bond fund is about 6 per cent, while unit trusts only pay about 3 per cent commission.

Mark Dampier's alternative recommendation is the Barclays Distribution Unit Trust, sold through IFAs or Barclays direct. About 55 per cent of its holdings are in equities and the rest in fixed-interest. Barclays currently offers 6.25 per cent, taken tax-free when it is part of a PEP. And with a greater weight in equities, there's more prospect for capital growth. The minimum investment is £3,000.

Distribution and with-profits bonds are sold through tied agents and independent financial advisers. If you don't have an adviser, call IFA Promotion on 0117 9711177. They'll give you the names of three advisers near your home.

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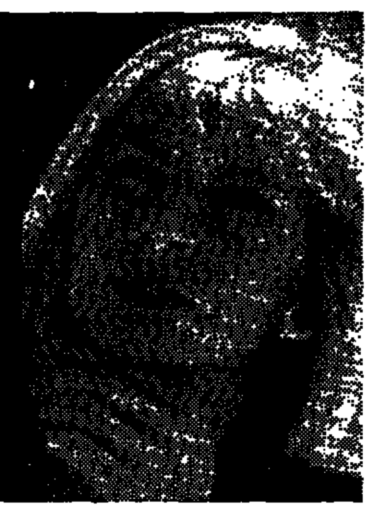

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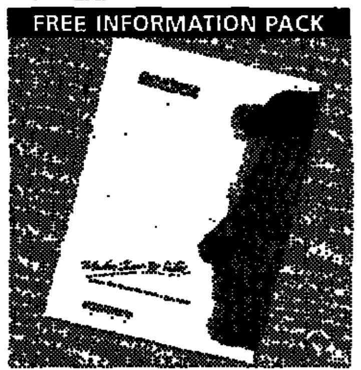

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Look around to make your savings more interesting

Bank and building society rates are at their lowest since 1939. Clifford German suggests some alternatives that could give a better return

POST OFFICE
BRITAIN DECLARES WAR

The day war broke out: Not since 1939 have interest rates on savings been as low, with miniscule returns for most ordinary savers Photograph: Hulton Getty

Interest rates on the average bank and building society account have reached their lowest levels since 1939, according to the MoneyFacts database. Part of the blame must fall on building societies that are taking advantage of investors locked into their accounts while they wait for windfall profits and bonuses, but societies generally are keeping down rates for savers and borrowers in the hope of increasing their share of the mortgage market, while banks traditionally pay savers less than building societies do.

But investors dissatisfied with the minuscule rates of interest on bank and building society accounts do have alternatives. Fidelity Investments suggests cash unit trusts, which reinvest investors' cash in the London money markets where rates are substantially higher than on small retail deposits, or in gilt edged stock and bonds issued by local authorities which are close to maturity.

Fidelity's own MoneyBuilder Cash charges no inital fees or exit fees, the annual management charge is just 0.5 per cent, after which it currently offers 5.2 per cent gross on a minimum deposit of £5,000, which is double the average building society rate.

Some of the specialised London banks also offer money market accounts on larger deposits, offering fixed rates from overnight up to five years. Cater Allen Bank – part of the London discount house group – currently pays 4.93 per cent gross on £50,000 on deposit overnight. The rate rises on deposits for a week or longer, reaching 6.75 on three-year money. Interest is paid monthly.

Small businesses can also earn more off the high street. On a current account, allowing 150 transactions a quarter, Cater Allen Bank offers 3.75 per cent gross on credit balances of £10,000, which is at least double the comparable rates at high street banks.

Mutual building societies are, however, working overtime to exploit their cost advantage over their rivals who are converting into banks.

At present the mutuals are paying around 0.25 per cent more to savers on comparable accounts, and the margin could rise as banks and building societies start to favour savers rather than borrowers, who currently get an advantage of around 0.5 per cent from mutual lenders.

But for many investors who like the security of a bank or building society, the future trend of interest rates is as important as current rates. Higher rates are available on longer-term money. West Bromwich Building Society has just launched a one-year bond which offers 6 per cent gross and a three-year bond which pays 7.25 per cent gross, both on a minimum investment of £2,500.

But if base rates begin to rise within the next 12 months, shorter-term investors could have the last laugh. Sun Banking pays 5.25 per cent gross on £1,000 for a month, 6 per cent for one-year money and 7.5 per cent for five years, but increases in base rates could make those longer rates less attractive.

In particular, many investors with variable-rate Tessa accounts which matured over the past six months who rolled them over into fixed-rate Tessas for the next five years – to obtain an extra 1-2 per cent interest – could find that they have made the wrong choice again.

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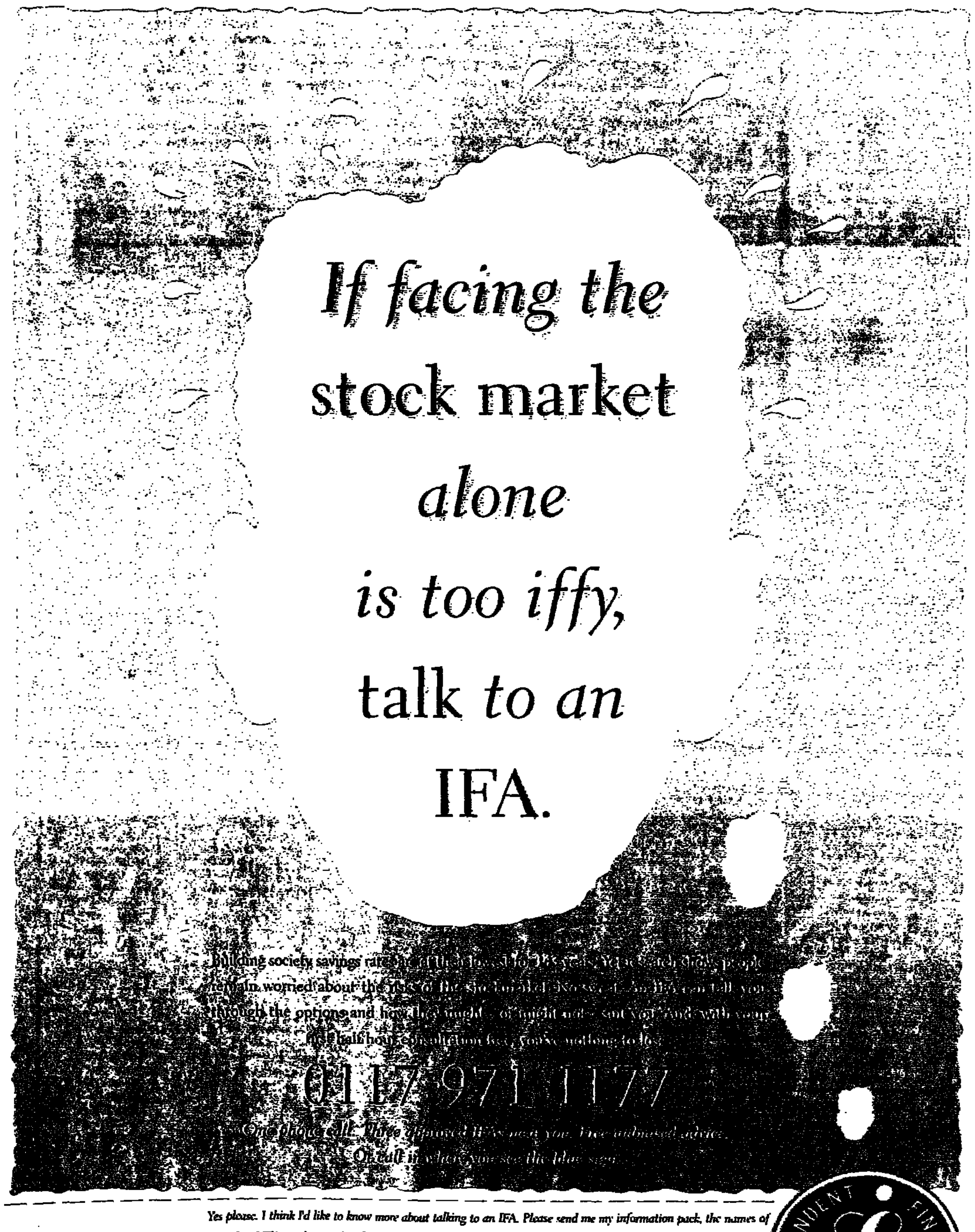
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Best borrowing rates

MORTGAGES

	Telephone	% Rate and period	Max adv %	Fee	Incentive	Redemption penalty
Fixed rates						
Scarborough BS	0800 590547	0.20 for 1 year	85	*0.75%*	—	*1st 5 yrs:7.04% of sum repaid*
West Bromwich BS	*0121 525 7070*	6.55 to 1/11/99	85	£295	£300 cash rebate	1st 6 yrs: 6% of advance
FirstMortgage BS	0800 080088	7.40 to 1/8/01	90	£275	—	To 1/8/02: 5% of advance
Variable rates						
West Bromwich BS	0121 525 7070	0.99 for 1 year	75		1% of advance	1st 5 yrs: 6% of advance
Principality BS	01222 344188	3.60% to 1/10/98	90	—		*To 30/9/01: discount reclaimed*
Abbey National	*0800* 555100	5.74 to 31/8/01	95	—	Refund valn fee	To 31/8/02: Indiv determined
First time buyers fixed rates						
Bristol & West BS	0800 608088	*0.95 to 30/6/97*	90	£275	—	To 30/6/01: 8/6 mths interst
Market Haboro' BS	01858 463244	4.49 to 1/7/98	90	£250	Unemployment ins	To 1/7/00: 3 mths interest
Northern Rock BS	0800 591500	7.49 to 1/8/01	95	£295		*1st 6yrs: 5% of sum repaid*
***First time buyers* variable rates**						
Principality BS	01222 344188	1.00 to 1/7/97	90	—	—	To 30/6/01: discount reclmd
Northern Rock BS	0800 591500	*4.24% to 1/8/99*	95	£295—		1st 7 yrs: 5% of sum repaid
Halifax BS	0800 101110	5.43 to 30/9/01	90	—	£300 & free valn	To 30/9/03: 1-4% of advance

PERSONAL LOANS

	Telephone	APR		Fixed monthly payments (£3,000 over 3 years)	
Unsecured				**With insurance**	**Without insurance**
Direct Line	0141 248 9966	13.90E		£112.86	£101.33
Alliance & Leicester	*0116 262 6262*	*14.80*		*£114.93*	£102.36
Midland Bank	0800 180180	14.90		£115.82	£102.49
Secured (second charge)				**Max LTV Advance**	**Term**
Clydesdale Bank	0800 240024	7.50	Neg	£3K - £15K	6 mths to 25 years
Royal B of Scotland	0131 523 7023	8 70	*70%*	£2.5K-£100K	3 years to retirement
Barclays Bank	*0800 000929*	*9.3/9.6*	*80%*	*£10K-75K*	5 to 25 years

OVERDRAFTS

	Telephone	Account	Authorised % pm	Authorised APR	Unauthorised % pm	APR
Woolwich BS	0800 400900	Current	0.76	9.5	2.18	29.5
Alliance & Leicester	0500 959595	Alliance	0.76	9.5	2.20	29.8
Abbey National	0500 200500	Current	0 94	11 9	2.18	29.5

CREDIT CARDS

	Telephone	Card Type	Min	Rate Income	APR % pm	Annual %	Int. free Fee peri-od
Standard							
Robert Fleming/S&P	0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	—	0.8958	11.20	nil	0 days
Robert Fleming/S&P	0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa		1.00	14.00	£12	56 days
People's Bank Conn	0500 551055	MasterCard/Visa	—	1.13	14.40	nil	56 days
Gold cards							
Co-operative Bank	*0345 212212*	*Visa*	*£20,000*	*0.4792*	*10.32*	*£120*	*46 days*
Royal B of Scotland	01702 362890	Visa	£20,000	1.05N	14.50N	£35	46 days
People's Bank Conn	0500 551055	MaterCard/Visa	£20,000	1.13	14.40	nil	56 days

APR *Annualised percentage rate.* B+C Buildings and Contents insurance LTV *Loan to value* ASU *Accident, sickness and unemployment*
E *Available to comprehensive motor insurance policyholders aged over 22 years.*
N *Introductory rate for a limited period.*

All rates subject to change without notice. *Source: MONEYFACTS 01692 500677* *8 August 1996*

Best savings rates

	Telephone number	Account	Notice or term	Deposit	Rate %	Interest interval
INSTANT ACCESS						
Portman BS	01202 292444	Instant Access	Instant	£100	4.50	Year
Sun Banking Corp	01438 744505	Liquidity	Instant	£25,000	5.00	Year
Skipton BS	*01756 700511*	*High Street*	*Instant*	*£30,000*	*5.15*	*Year*
Direct Line	0181 667 1121	Instant Savings	Instant	£50,000	5.75	Year
INSTANT ACCESS POSTAL ACCOUNTS						
Yorkshire BS	0800 378836	First Class Access	Postal	£1,000	4.90	Year
Alliance & Leic BS	0645 645660	Instant Direct	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Year
Bristol & West BS	*0800 901109*	*Instant Acess Postal*	*Postal*	*£10,000*	*5.85*	*Year*
Bristol & West BS	0800 901109	Instant Acess Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.05	Year
NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS						
Chelsea BS	0800 132351	Post-tel 20 Day	20 day P	£5,000	6.05	Year
Cheltenham & Gloucester	0800 717505	90 Day	90 day P	£100	5.50	Year
First National BS	0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day P	£10,000	6.20	Year
Yorkshire BS	0800 378836	Mutual Interest	1 Yr Bond	£1,000	6.25	Year
CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Kleinwort Benson	01202 502404	HICA	Instant	£2,500	5.00	Month
Halifax BS	01422 335333	Asset Reserve	Instant	£10,000	4.00	Quarter
Chelsea BS	0800 717515	Classic Postal	Instant	£10,000	4.35	Year
Chelsea BS	0800 717515	Classic Postal	Instant	£25,000	4.65	Year
FIXED RATE BONDS						
Chelsea BS	0800 272505	Fixed Rate Bond	1/8/97	£5,000	6.25F	Year
Cheshire BS	0800 243278	Fixed Rate Bond	31/12/98	£5,000	6.75F	Year
Stroud & Swindon BS	*0345 252423*	*Fixed Rate Bond*	*1/7/99*	*£1,000*	*7.35F*	*Year*
Britannia BS	0800 132304	High Income Bond	1/10/2001	£50,000	7.75F	Year
FIRST TESSAS						
Sun Banking Corp	01438 744505	Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years	£8,575	7.50F	Year
NatWest Bank	0800 200400	Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years	£5,000	7.45F	Year
Birmingham Midshires	0645 720721		5 years	£1,000	7.00	Year
Principality BS	01222 344188		5 years	£500	7 00	Year
FOLLOW-ON TESSAS						
Sun Banking Corp	01438 744505	Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years	£9,000	7.50F	Year
NatWest Bank	0800 200400	Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years	£5,000	7.45F	Year
Birmingham Midshires	0645 720721		5 years	£1,000	7.00	Year
Cheltenham & Gloucester	0800 717505		5 years	£9,000	7.00	Year
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS (net)						
Financial Assurance	0181 380 3388		1 year	£5,000	4 60FN	Year
Pinnacle Insurance	*0181 207 9007*		2 years	£3,000	5.55FN	Year
Pinnacle Insurance	0181 207 9007		3 years	£3,000	5.90FN	Year
ITT London & Edinburgh	01903 820820		4 years	£3,000	6.20FN	Year
Pinnacle Insurance	*0181 207 9007*		5 years	£3,000	6.50FN	Year
NATIONAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (gross)						
Investment Accounts			1 month	£20	4.75	Year
				£500	5.25	Year
				£25,000	5.50	Year
Income Bonds			3 months	£2,000	6.00	Month
				£25,000	6.25	Month
Capital Bond		Series J	5 years	£100	6.65F	Maturity
First Option Bonds			12 months	£1,000	6.00F	Year
				£20,000	6.25F	Year
Pensioner's G'teed Income Bond		Series 3	5 year	£500	7.00F	Month
NS Certificates (tax-free)		43nd issue	5 year	£100	5.35F	Maturity
		9th Index linked	5 year	£100	2.50+rpi	Maturity
Children's Bond		Issue H	5 year	£25	6.75F	Maturity

P *post only* F *fixed rate*
N *net rate* A *All withdrawals subject of 30 day loss of interest*
All rates are shown gross and are subject to change without notice. Source: *MONEYFACTS 01692 500677.* *8 August 1996*

FEAR OF FINANCE

Clifford German

The disappearance of National & Provincial *Building Society into the* maw of Abbey National this month sets the scene for the first real confrontation between the mutuals and the converting building societies. N&P's borrowers and savers will soon have their shares and bonuses and will be free for the first time in 18 months to look for better offers elsewhere in the market.

By definition they are now Abbey National members. From next month borrowers with mortgages over £60,000 and £100,000 will qualify for the slightly lower rates Abbey offers on large mortgages, and holders of maximum Tessa accounts will qualify for the Abbey premium. But by definition ex-N&P customers are not eligible for any discount rates or cash-backs on the special remortgage deals Abbey offers to win new business.

The general view is that many of them will go elsewhere. Borrowers will be in pursuit of a special discount or cash-back deal while they can still be found, or a fixed rate in case mortgage rates start to rise again next year.

Others will be tempted to try their luck by taking their accounts to the remaining mutuals who might still convert to banks themselves or more likely be taken over. If so, Birmingham Midshires looks the most likely candidate to go this year.

But the whole industry will be studying intently the speed with which the N&P *customer base dissipates,* because it will give the next generation of converters, including Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester, Northern Rock and the mighty Halifax itself, a clearer idea of how much business they stand to lose when their customers have their conversion bonuses and are free to move. Even a 10 per cent loss of business for these four would represent a massive shift of money and market share.

The evidence from N&P will also give Halifax and other converters precious time to try and devise a strategy to retain business after conversion, although that will not be easy when they have commercial shareholders demanding dividends as well.

Last but not least the behaviour of the N&P customers will help the market put a price on the 78 remaining mutuals, led by *Nationwide,* Bradford & Bingley and Yorkshire, who will be down to 27 per cent of the mortgage market between them when the cur*rent round of conversions* is complete.

Committed though they are to militant mutuality, they could have attracted so much business from *the* likes of Halifax next year through cheaper mortgages and higher savings rates that they have to be taken out forcibly, in a final Big Bang for the demutualisation process.

LOOSE CHANGE

Specialist investment manager **Neill Clerk Capital,** based in London, is launching a distribution fund to buy mature and semi-mature forests which will be logged and sold to provide an annual income free of income and capital gains tax.

Expenses are relatively high, with an initial 6.5 per cent deducted to cover *issue costs and* commission. Legal costs are estimated at 1.5 per cent, the annual management charge is1.5 per cent and *the forestry contractors* will get £11.50 per hectare a year, plus 10 per cent of *the net proceeds of the* timber. But the managers claim over 12 years the project should yield 8 per cent a year tax-free. The minimum investment is £1.000.

"Crest Makes Share Dealing Easier" is the title of a free booklet on the new electronic share dealing system from **Barclays Stockbrokers.** Call 0800-551177, 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

Skandia plans to enter the long-term care insur*ance market in co-opera*tion with PPP Lifetime Care, offering investors a *single-premium bond to* finance future care costs.

Fleming Investment Trust Management is offering to exchange shares in any UK listed company into a Share Plan investment in any Fleming investment trust free of charge until September 30.

Broker **John Charcol** is offering fixed-rate mortgages up to 70 per cent of valuation at 5.99 per cent fixed until July 1999, with early redemption penalties of only three months' interest. Details on 0800-718191.

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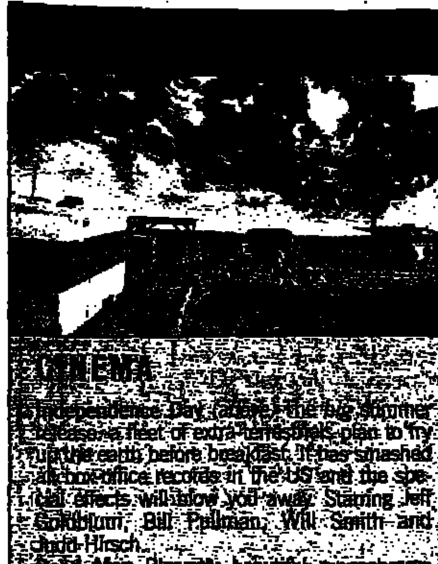
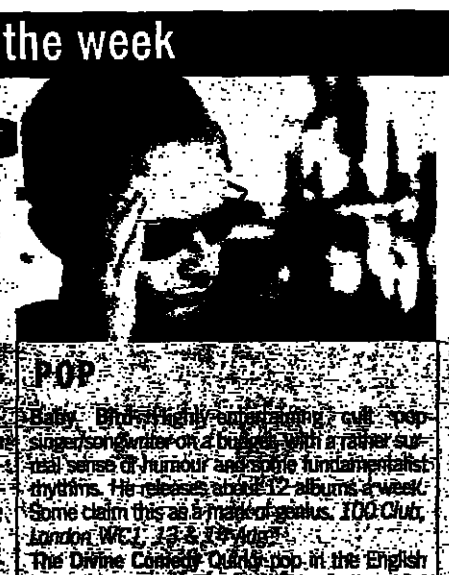
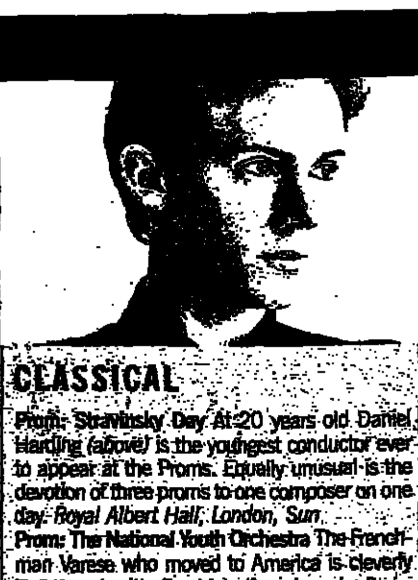
†Net equivalent p.a. on £25,000 or more = 5.04%; £10,000 – £24,999 = 4.72%; £100 – £9,999 = 4.40%. Current gross monthly rates available on C&G Direct 30 are: £25,000 or more = 6.12%; £10,000 – £24,999 = 5.75%; £5,000 – £9,999 = 5.37%. Rates are variable. We can pay interest gross to non-taxpayers who are ordinarily resident in the UK for tax purposes, subject to the required certification. Otherwise income tax is deducted at the lower rate, currently 20%. Where the sum deducted is more than your tax liability you can apply to the Inland Revenue for a tax repayment. Withdrawals can be made by cheque or by transfer of funds to another C&G account. C&G Direct 30 can be operated only by post using our C&G By Post service. To help us maintain our service standards, we may record or monitor telephone calls.

going out

pick of the week



CINEMA

Independence Day *(above)* The big summer release: a fleet of extra-terrestrials plan to fry up the earth before breakfast. It has smashed all box-office records in the US and the special effects will blow you away. Starring Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, Will Smith and Judd Hirsch.

Dead Man Bizarrely beautiful monochrome western from Jim Jarmusch. Johnny Depp plays William Blake, a clerk with a price on his head in the wildest of Wild Wests. With Crispin Glover, Robert Mitchum.

The Godfather Coppola's mafia masterpiece has a stately Brando leading the Corleone clan and that scene with the horse's head. Starring Al Pacino, Richard Castellano, Robert Duvall.

THEATRE

Hedda Gabler Choose between Alexandra Gilbreath's *(above)* tattered, powerfully austere performance in London, or Harriet Walter breathing ice and fire for Lindy Davies at Chichester. *Donmar Warehouse, London & Chichester Festival Theatre*

Northanger Abbey A charming and surprisingly frothy adaptation by Matthew Francis of Jane Austen's satire of the gothic novel, with charming performances from Sarah-Jane Holm and James Wallace. *Greenwich Theatre, London*

The Red Balloon Children's musical, inspired by the French film and brought to life by Anthony Clark. Boasts an evocative score by Mark Vibrans. *National Theatre, London*

EXHIBITIONS

Arthur Melville Loosely painted Middle Eastern and Spanish scenes appear to link him with the French Impressionists, but the few oils he produced uncover similarities with French Symbolists and German Expressionists. *Bourne Fine Art, Dundas Street, Edinburgh*

Hans Hartung *(above)* demonstrates the development of Hartung's work from the meticulous experiments of the [illegible] to the calligraphic abstractions made in [illegible]. An exemplary show of its type. [illegible], *to 23 Oct*

The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition invariably attracts huge crowds and some interesting work, such as Barbara Rae's vivid semi-abstracts. *RA, London, to 18 Aug*

POP

Baby Bird Highly entertaining cult pop-singer/songwriter on a budget, with a rather surreal sense of humour and some fundamentalist rhythms. He releases about 12 albums a week. Some claim this as a mark of genius. *100 Club, London WC1, 13 & 19 Aug*

The Divine Comedy Quirky pop in the English vaudeville (ie Kinks/Blur) tradition. Look out for Neil Hannon's *(above)* Michael Caine fixation, as featured in the current single. *The York Hall, Bethnal Green, tonight*

Oasis After the troubled affair in Loch Lomond last weekend, Oasis need to infuse Knebworth with as much rock'n'roll joy as they can. Don't bet against them. *Knebworth Park, tonight & Sun*

CLASSICAL

Prom: Stravinsky Day At 20 years old Daniel Harding *(above)* is the youngest conductor ever to appear at the Proms. Equally unusual is the devotion of three proms to one composer on one day. *Royal Albert Hall, London, Sun*

Prom: The National Youth Orchestra The Frenchman Varese who moved to America is cleverly juxtaposed with Gershin's *American in Paris*. Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* rounds off a night of youthful energy. *Royal Albert Hall, tonight*

Edinburgh Festival, The Opening Show Shoenburg's *A Survivor from Warsaw* recalls the first opening in 1947, and Beethoven's Symphony No 9 promotes optimism for the future. *Usher Hall, Edinburgh, Sun*

COMEDY

Jo Brand *(above)* Despite more and more television appearances, Brand excels first and foremost as a live performer; she has a wonderful rapport with her audience, beautiful timing and classic *fat is funny humour*. "They say that inside every fat person, there's a thin person waiting to get out – that's because we've just eaten him." *Comedy Store, London SW1, 12 & 19 Aug*

Alan Parker Urban Warrior Witness this delightfully crass left-wing enorak assert his dominance over the audience, the government and the world. *Pleasance, Edinburgh, to 25 Aug*

Ardal O'Hanlon Son of an Irish vicar, the star of Channel 4's *Father Ted* charms audiences with his surreal brand of humour. *Gilded Balloon Theatre, Edinburgh, to 25 Aug*

Arts and entertainment listings

FILM

LES APPRENTIS (15) A French Withnail & I. *MGM Swiss Centre* 1.50, 4.00, 6.30, 8.50

AUGUST (PG) *(subtitles)* Anthony Hopkins stars and makes his directing debut. *Curzon Mayfair* 2.00 (Sat), 4.00, 6.15, 8.30; *Renoir* 2.45, 4.50, 6.55, 9.00

BEAUTIFUL THING (15) Exploration of gay sexuality. *ABC Shaftesbury Ave* 12noon, 3.40, 7.20 + My Beautiful Laundrette; *Odeon Mezzanine* 4.10, 8.40

BLOOD SIMPLE (18) The Coen brothers' classic thriller. *Renoir* 1.25, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40; *Virgin Haymarket* 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.35

BLUE IN THE FACE (15) Monologues and sketches featuring Harvey Keitel. *MGM Swiss Centre* 1.30, 6.20

THE CABLE GUY (12) Riotous comedy starring Jim Carrey. *Virgin Trocadero* 12.20, 2.30, 4.45, 7.10, 9.30; *Warner West End* 12.10, 2.20, 4.50, 7.00, 9.10, 11.25

COPYCAT (18) Thriller starring Sigourney Weaver. *Warner West End* 8.20, 11.00

THE CURSE OF FRANKENSTEIN (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sat 8.45

DEAD MAN (18) Jim Jarmusch's unconventional Western starring Johnny Depp. *Virgin Haymarket* 2.15, 5.10, 8.10

EXECUTIVE DECISION (15) Tense thriller starring Kurt Russell. *Warner West End* 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.40, 11.35

THE EXORCIST (18) Linda Blair is possessed by the devil in this classic horror. *Virgin Trocadero* Sat 12.20am

FARGO (18) Coen brothers thriller about a kidnapping that goes horribly wrong. *ABC Panton St* 1.30, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50; *Odeon Ken* 9.25; *Swiss Cottage Odeon* 8.45; *Virgin Fulham Rd* 7.20, 9.40; *Warner West End* 1.30, 3.50, 6.20, 8.50, 11.20

FLIPPER *(PG) Dolphin feature starring* Paul Hogan. *Plaza* 1.40, 4.00, 6.20; *Virgin Trocadero* 12.20, 2.25, 4.05; *Warner West End* 12.20, 2.30, 4.35, 6.40

FRANKENSTEIN CREATED WOMAN (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sat 4.30

FRANKENSTEIN MUST BE DESTROYED (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sat 6.30

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN (18) Slick rollercoaster movie with violence aplenty. *Odeon Mezzanine* 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.40

THE GODFATHER PART II (18) Re-release of the continuing mafia saga, starring Al Pacino and Robert De Niro. *Lumiere* 2.15, 7.10, 11.15 (Sat)

HEAT (15) Al Pacino and Robert De Niro in another cop/psychopath thriller. *Warner West End* 11.10

HOW TO MAKE AN AMERICAN QUILT (15) Feel-good movie starring Winona Ryder. *Plaza* 12.15, 5.40

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (U) Animated Disney blockbuster. *Barbican Cinema* 2.00, 4.00; *Odeon Mezzanine* 1.10, 3.15; *Virgin Trocadero* 12.05, 2.05, 4.05; *Warner West End* 12noon, 2.00, 4.05, 6.10

INDEPENDENCE DAY (12) Alien invasion adventure starring Bill Pullman. *ABC Tottenham Court Rd* 2.00, 5.40, 9.00; *Barbican Cinema* 6.00, 8.40; *Odeon Leic Sq* 10.50am, 2.00, 5.15, 8.35, 11.40; *Odeon Marble Arch* 10.45am, 2.00, 5.15, 8.45

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH (U) Fantasy combining live action and animation. *Odeon West End* 1.15, 3.15, 5.15, 7.15, 9.10

KINGPIN (12) Comedy starring Woody Harrelson. *Odeon Mezzanine* 1.35, 6.10

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA (PG) David Lean epic. *Odeon Haymarket* 1.30, 6.30

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18) Street-level view of the glitzy world of Las Vegas, starring Nicolas Cage as an alcoholic. *ABC Panton St* 3.55, 8.45

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE (PG) Brian De Palma's film version of the cult 60s TV series, starring Tom Cruise. *Empire Leic Sq* 11.30am, 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30; *Virgin Trocadero* 1.30, 4.00, 6.40, 9.10

NELLY ET MONSIEUR ARNAUD (PG) French May to September romance between an ageing diplomat and his typist. *MGM Swiss Centre* 3.40, 8.30

IL POSTINO (15) Sentimental love story. *Plaza* 1.35, 3.55, 6.20, 8.40

PRIMAL FEAR (18) Courtroom drama starring Richard Gere. *Plaza* 2.45, 5.20

QUATERMASS AND THE PIT (15) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sun 8.30

QUATERMASS II (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sun 6.30

THE QUATERMASS XPERIMENT (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sun 3.00

IN THE REALM OF THE SENSES (18) *(subtitles)* Japanese erotic thriller. *ABC Piccadilly (Formerly MGM)* 1.30, 3.45, 6.10, 8.30

REVENGE OF FRANKENSTEIN (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sun 2.30

RICHARD III (15) Ian McKellen stars in Shakespeare updated to an imaginary fascist Britain. *Curzon West End* 1.05 (Sat), 3.25, 5.55, 8.30; *The Minema* 3.30, 6.30, 8.30

THE ROCK (15) Action adventure starring Sean Connery. *Odeon Mezzanine* 2.20, 5.35, 8.25; *Virgin Trocadero* 6.05, 9.00, 12midnight (Sat); *Warner West End* 1.00, 3.45, 6.30, 9.20, 12midnight

SECRETS AND LIES *(15) Mike Leigh's* Palme d'Or winning drama. *ABC Panton St* 1.40, 5.00, 8.00; *ABC Shaftesbury Ave* 2.05, 5.00, 8.00; *Odeon Mezzanine* 5.25, 8.20

THE SECRET OF ROAN INISH (U) Poetic drama set on the west coast of Ireland. *ABC Panton St* 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45; *Clapham Picture Hse* 4.30, 8.45; *Virgin Haymarket* 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40; *Warner West End* 12.10, 2.20, 4.40, 7.05, 9.30, 11.45

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (U) Emma Thompson stars in this adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel. *Odeon Mezzanine* 2.30, 5.30, 8.25

SMOKE (15) Episodic New York drama starring Harvey Keitel. *MGM Swiss Centre* 1.30, 3.45, 6.10, 8.30

SOME LIKE IT HOT (U) Marilyn Monroe classic. *Royal Festival Hall* Sat 9.30

THE STUPIDS (PG) Comedy starring Tom Arnold. *Odeon West End* 1.45, 4.00, 6.20, 8.45, 11.50 (Sat)

THE SUBSTITUTE (18) Tom Berenger sorts out problems at a school. *Virgin Trocadero* 6.40, 9.10, 12midnight (Sat)

THINGS TO DO IN DENVER WHEN YOU'RE DEAD (18) A retired gangster returns to the job for one last time. Starring Andy Garcia and Christopher Walken. *ABC Panton St* 1.15, 6.00

THE TIT AND THE MOON (18) The adolescent search for a surrogate breast. *ABC Piccadilly (Formerly MGM)* 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45

TOY STORY *(PG)* Computer-animated extravaganza about a boy's toy collection who are dumped in favour of a new-fangled robot. *Virgin Trocadero* 12.20, 2.20

TRAINSPOTTING (18) Adaptation of Irvine Welsh's novel. *Virgin Trocadero* 4.30, 6.45, 9.00, 12midnight (Sat); *Warner West End* 12.20, 2.30, 5.00, 7.20, 9.40, 11.50

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS (15) Comedy starring Uma Thurman as the blonde model with the male attention. *ABC Tott Ct Rd* 2.05, 4.45, 7.05, 9.30; *Warner West End* 12.20, 2.30, 4.40, 6.50, 9.00, 11.30

TWELVE MONKEYS (15) Terry Gilliam's latest time-travelling adventure stars Bruce Willis. *Warner West End* 8.45

TWISTER (PG) Rival meteorologists tackle the largest tornado to hit Oklahoma this century. *ABC Tottenham Court Rd* 1.35, 4.05, 6.45, 9.25; *Empire Leic Sq* 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.40, 11.30 (Sat); *Plaza* 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.35; *Virgin Trocadero* 12.30, 1.30, 3.00, 4.00, 5.30, 6.35, 8.10, 9.15

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL (15) The developing relationship between two TV presenters starring Robert Redford and Michelle Pfeiffer. *Empire Leic Sq* 12.45, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00

X THE UNKNOWN (18) Hammer Horror feature. *Barbican Cinema* Sun 4.45

West End Booking Lines

Numbers 0171 except where noted; som may levy a booking fee.

ABC Panton St *0181-970 6021;* ABC Piccadilly (Formerly MGM) *437 3561;* ABC Shaftesbury Ave *0181-970 6013;* ABC Tottenham Court Rd *0181-970 6032;* Barbican Cinema *638 8891;* Curzon Mayfair *369 1720;* Curzon Phoenix *369 1721;* Curzon West End *369 1722;* Empire Leic Sq *0990-888990;* Lumiere *836 0691;* MGM Baker St *0181-970 6036;* MGM Swiss Centre *0181-970 6017;* The Minema *369 1723;* Odeon Haymarket *839 7697;* Odeon Leic Sq *930 3232;* Odeon Marble Arch *723 2011;* Odeon Mezzanine *930 3232;* Odeon West End *0181-315 4221;* Plaza *0990-888990;* Renoir *837 8402;* Royal Festival Hall *960 4242;* Virgin Haymarket *0181-970 6016;* Virgin Trocadero *0181-970 6015;* Warner West End *437 4343.*

repertory cinema

London

EVERYMAN Hollybush Vale NW3 (0171-435 1525)

Blowup: Band-Ass Blaxploitation Movies *Sat: Phone 01487 832480 For Details* Dekalog 3 (PG) *Sun 12-30pm* + *Dekalog 4 (PG)* [illegible]

ICA The Mall SW1 (0171-930 3647) [illegible]

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3232) [illegible]

RIVERSIDE Crisp Rd W6 (0181-741 2255) *La Regle Du Jeu* (PG) [illegible]

THEATRE

West End Choice

Matinees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

THE ASPERN PAPERS
Daniel J Travanti and Hannah Gordon in Michael Redgrave's adaptation of Henry James' novel.
Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) ⊖ Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 8.00, Sat 8.15, [4] 3.00, [7] 5.00, ends 14 Sep, £7.50-£24. 145 mins.

BY JEEVES
An Andrew Lloyd Webber and Alan Ayckbourn musical collaboration based on the P.G. Wodehouse stories.
Duke of York's St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) ⊖ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00, ends 28 Sep, £9-£25. 140 mins.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)
Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays.
Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) ⊖ Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8.00, [5] 3.00, [7] 5.00, [1] 4.00, £5.50-£20. 120 mins.

DIAL M FOR MURDER
Peter Davison stars in the famous thriller about a marriage that leads to murder in '50s London.
Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ⊖ Picc Circ. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15, [5] 3.00, [7] 5.00, £10.50-£24, previews (until 13 Aug) half price. 125 mins.

FERRY 'CROSS THE MERSEY
Musical biog starring Gerry and the Pacemakers.
Lyric Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5045) ⊖ Picc Circ. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15, [4] 3.00 & [7] 5.00, ends 7 Sep, £9.50-£25. 155 mins.

HEDDA GABLER
Ibsen's dark masterpiece presented by English Touring Theatre stars Alexandra Gilbreath.
Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) ⊖ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00, *[5][7] 4.00, ends 31 Aug, £12-£18. 150 mins.*

AN IDEAL HUSBAND
Diane Fletcher and John McCallum in Peter Hall's revival of his 1992 production.
Old Vic Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 6655) ⊖/BR: Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] & Sat 3.00, ends 23 Nov, £6-£24. 165 mins.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS
Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller.
Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) ⊖ Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 8.15, [4] 2.30, [7] 5.00, £9-£24.50. 110 mins.

THE LIGHTS
Director Ian Rickson uses the three-level auditorium as a stage for Howard Korder's urban tales.
Royal Court Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) ⊖ Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 7.30, [7] 3.30, ends 31 Aug, £5-£18, concs available. 130 mins.

MARTIN GUERRE
Iain Glen in Boublil and Schonberg's latest grand-scale musical.
Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-734 8951) ⊖ Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45, [5][7] 3.00, £16.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE:
Olivier:
A Little Night Music Sean Mathias's production of Sondheim's musical stars Judi Dench and Patricia Hodge. Mon-Sat 7.15pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.00pm, ends 31 Aug. 165 mins.
Lyttelton:
Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead Simon Russell Beale stars in Matthew Francis's production of Stoppard's comedy. Today 2.15pm & 7.30pm. 135 mins.
Cottesloe:
Stanley Antony Sher as the great English artist Stanley Spencer in Pam Gems' portrait. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm. 175 mins.
Olivier: £12-£32.50, Lyttelton: £8-24, Cottesloe: £12-£16. South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) BR/⊖ Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY:
The Barbican:
Romeo And Juliet Adrian Noble directs Zubin Varla and Lucy Whybrow. Today 2pm & 7.15pm, ends 27 Aug. 180 mins.
The Pit:
The Devil Is An Ass Matthew Warchus directs Ben Jonson's satirical comedy. Today 2pm & 7.15pm. 165 mins.
Barbican Theatre: £6-£24.50. The Pit: £10-£17. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) ⊖ Barbican.

PASSION
Michael Ball and Maria Friedman in Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's award-winning musical.
Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590) ⊖ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8.00, [4][7] 3.00, £13.50-£30. 135 mins.

SALAD DAYS
Ned Sherrin directs the hit 50s musical.
Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/⊖ Charing X. Mon-Sat 8.00, [4] 2.30, [7] 4.00, £10-£27.50. 135 mins.

A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY
Dramatisation of Sterne's celebrated comic travelogue.
Open Air Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431) ⊖ Baker St. Tonight 11pm, £5. 60 mins.

THE TEMPEST
Denis Quilley as Prospero in Patrick Garland's production.
Open Air Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431) ⊖ Baker St. Today 2.30pm & 8pm, ends 4 Sep, £7.50-£18.50. 150 mins.

VOYEURZ
Musical revue about a girl's self-discovery in a NY night club.
Whitehall Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735) BR/⊖ Charing X. Mon-Thu 8.45, Fri & Sat *7.00 & 9.15, £12-£25. 90 mins.*

Beyond the West End

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE
The Memory of Water Terry Johnson directs Hayden Gwynne in Shelagh Stephenson's play. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, ends 31 Aug, £11-£13.50, Mon & mat Sat £8, concs available. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) ⊖ Swiss Cottage.

LYRIC STUDIO
Birdy Naomi Wallace's adaptation of William Wharton's haunting American novel, directed by Kevin Knight. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4.30pm, ends 17 Aug, £7.50, Mon & standby concs £5. King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) ⊖ Hammersmith.

YOUNG VIC
Long Day's Journey Into Night Penelope Wilton and Richard Johnson in Eugene O'Neill's intense study of destructive family life. Today 2pm & 7.30pm. £15, concs £8, *school groups £6. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363)* BR/⊖ Waterloo.

Around the country

Chichester

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE
When We Are Married Jude Kelly directs Dawn French and Leo McKern in JB Priestley's comic drama. Mon-Thu 7.30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 17 Aug, £9-£25, concs Mon-Fri. Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

MINERVA THEATRE
Hedda Gabler Henrik Ibsen's classic with Harriet Walter in the demanding title role. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.45pm, ends 17 Aug, £14-£25, concs available. Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

Oxford

ROSE THEATRE
Hamlet Oxford Stage Company's updated Shakespearean tragedy with Ian Pepperrell, Emma Cunniffe and Sheila Allen. Mon-Thu & Sat 7.30pm, Fri 8pm, mats Sat 2.30pm, ends 24 Aug, £10, concs £5. Rose Place, St Aldates (01865-798600)

Richmond

RICHMOND THEATRE
Uncle Vanya Bill Bryden directs Derek Jacobi in the title role of Chekhov's droll comic drama. Today 2.30pm & 7.45pm, £8-£22, concs available. The Green (0181-940 0088)

Stratford-upon-Avon

THE OTHER PLACE
The Comedy of Errors Tim Supple directs Shakespeare's comedy *of mistaken identity*. In rep, today 1.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 12 Sep. £13.50-£17.50. Southern Lane (01789-295623)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
Troilus & Cressida Joseph Fiennes and Victoria Hamilton head Ian Judge's production of Shakespeare's war epic. In rep, tonight 7pm, ends 4 Oct, £6.50-£35.50. Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE
The General From America Richard Nelson's emotionally probing portrait of the hated US general Benedict Arnold. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 4 Oct, £9-£29.50. Waterside (01789-295623)

EXHIBITIONS

Bridport

BRIDPORT ARTS CENTRE
Anthony Caro Figure drawings by leading artist, best known for abstract sculpture. Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, ends 24 Aug, free. South Street (01308-427183)

Cambridge

KETTLE'S YARD
Claes Oldenburg: The Multiple Store Installation of small sculptural multiples. Opens 10 Aug. Tue-Sat 12.30pm-5.30pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm, ends 22 Sep, free. Castle Street (01223-352124)

Chichester

SCULPTURE AT GOODWOOD
Sculpture at Goodwood Includes work by Richard Deacon, Peter Randall-Page and Cathy de Monchaux. Thu-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, ends 2 Nov, £7.50 (£10 Sat). Hat Hill Copse, PO18 (01243-538449)

London

CAMDEN ARTS CENTRE
New Contemporaries 96 Showcase of work by 33 young artists. Tue-Thu 12noon-8pm, Fri-Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 8 Sep, free. Arkwright Road, *NW3 (0171-435 2643/5224)* ⊖ Finchley Road.

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY
Martin Fleming Site specific project. Ends 18 Aug.
Dutch Flower Painting 1600-1750 Includes Bosschaert and Ruysch. Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 29 Sep, £2, concs £1, Fri free. Gallery Road, SE21 (0181-693 5254) BR: West Dulwich.

HAYWARD GALLERY
Claes Oldenburg: An Anthology *Major* retrospective of witty soft sculptures by this pop art hero. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (until 8pm Tue & Wed), ends 18 Aug, £5, concs £3.50. Belvedere Road, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/⊖ Waterloo.

NATIONAL GALLERY
Degas: Beyond Impressionism Pastels, drawings and sculpture from Degas' late period. Ends 26 Aug, £5, concs £3.
Albrecht Durer: Saint Jerome Preview of important acquisition, prior to a national tour. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed until 8pm), Sun 12noon-6pm, ends Oct. Trafalgar Sq, WC2 (0171-839 3321) ⊖ Char X.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY
BP Portrait Award *National competition.* Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 20 Oct, free. St Martin's Place, WC2 (0171-306 0055) ⊖ Charing Cross.

QUEEN'S GALLERY, BUCKINGHAM PALACE
Leonardo da Vinci One hundred drawings from the Queen's collection. Mon-Sun 9.30am-4.30pm, ends 16 Feb, 1997, £3.50, concs £2.50, £2 under 17. Buckingham Palace Road, SW1 (0171-839 1377) ⊖ Victoria.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
228th Royal Academy Summer Exhibition National open exhibition. Ends 18 Aug, £5, concs £4.
Roger de Grey Paintings inspired by the landscape. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 22 Sep, £3, concs £2. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-439 7438) ⊖ Picc Circ.

TATE GALLERY
Leon Kossoff Highly textured paintings of urban scenes. Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2pm-5.50pm, ends 1 Sep, £4, concs £2.50. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) ⊖ Pimlico.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM
William Morris Exploration of the life and work of this designer, writer and printer. Mon 12noon-5.30pm, Tue-Sun 10am-5.30pm, *ends 1 Sep, £5.50, concs £3.25.* Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8500) ⊖ South Kensington.

WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY
The Open Prestigious submission exhibition. Tue-Sun 11am-5pm (Wed until 8pm), ends 15 Sep, free. Whitechapel High Street, E1 (0171-522 7888) ⊖ Aldgate East.

Oxford

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
Scream and Scream Again Film in art including Tony Oursler and Douglas Gordon. Tue-Sun 11am-6pm, (Thu until 9pm), ends 22 Sep, £2.50, concs £1.50, free Wed 11am-1pm, Thu 6pm-9pm. Pembroke Street (01865-722733)

St Ives

ST IVES TATE GALLERY
Mark Rothko in Cornwall Rothko's visit to St Ives explored in a display exhibition *alongside St Ives contemporaries. Ends* 3 Nov, £3, concs £1.50.
Paul Mason Marble pieces by resident sculptor. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 10 Aug, £3, concs £1.50 (to gallery). Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

COMEDY

London

BOUND & GAGGED AT THE TUFNELL PARK TAVERN
Rudy Lickwood, Sean Meo, Paul Thorne, Andre Vincent. Tonight 9.15pm, Tufnell Park Rd, N7 (0171-483 3456) ⊖ Tufnell Park. £5

CHISWICK COMEDY CLUB AT ROWANS CAFE
Helen Austin, Tony Burgess, Andy Robinson plus short spots. Tonight 9pm, Chiswick High Road, W4 (0181-742 1649) ⊖ Gunnersbury. £6, concs £5.

COMEDY STORE: BEST IN STAND-UP
Simon Bligh, Lee Hurst, Paul Thorne. Tonight 8pm & 12midnight. Oxendon St, SW1 (01426-914433) ⊖ Piccadilly Circus. £10

COSMIC COMEDY CLUB AT ASTRO BAR
[illegible] Tonight 8.30pm, Fulham Palace Rd, W6 (0171-381 2006) Hammersmith. £3.50

THE EXTEMPORE FILMS AT TRISTAN BATES THEATRE
[illegible] Tonight 8pm, [illegible] St, WC2 (0171-240 3940) ⊖ Leic Sq. £7.50, concs £5.50.

JONGLEURS BATTERSEA
Helen Austin, Phil Davey, Mickey Hutton, John Moloney. Tonight 7.15pm & 11.15pm, Lavender Gardens, SW11 (0171-924 2766) BR: Clapham Junction. £10, concs £7.

JONGLEURS COMEDY CAMDEN
Tim Clark, Kevin Hayes, Sean Meo, The Tracy Brothers. Tonight 7.15pm & 11.15pm. Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-924 2766) ⊖ Camden Town, £10, concs £7.

MECCANO CLUB AT FINNEGANS WAKE
Simon Fox, Kevin Hayes, Donna McPhail, Paul Vallis. Tonight 9pm, Essex Road, N1 (0171-813 4478) ⊖ Angel. £6, concs £5.

NEWSREVUE AT CANAL CAFE THEATRE
The week's news with a bit of song and dance thrown in. Tonight *10pm, Bridge House Pub,* Delamere Terrace, W2 (0171-289 6054) ⊖ Royal Oak, £5, concs £4, plus m'ship £1.

COMEDY STORE PLAYERS
Neil Ashdown, Steve Edis, Tony Hawks, Ben Keaton, *Andy Smart, Sukl Webster.* Sun 8pm, Oxendon Street, SW1 (01426-914433) ⊖ Piccadilly Circus, £10.

DANCE

Brighton

THE DOME
Brighton Philharmonic/Rose All-Tchaikovsky evening featuring the *Violin Concerto,* played by Tasmin Little, and *Pathetique Symphony.* Sun 7.30pm. £8-£15. Church Street (01273-709709)

Cheltenham

PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM MUSEUM
Emerald Chamber Players/Mackie A Mozart Divertimento and Bach and Vivaldi Concerti. Tonight 8pm. £10-£15. Albert Road (01242-227979)

Dartington

GREAT HALL
Ensemble Bash With Joanna MacGregor in Satie, Ravel, Jonathan Harvey and Django Bates. Sun 8.15pm. £7 & £10. (01803-863073)

London

LONDON COLISEUM
Lord Of The Dance New dance-drama choreographed by Michael Flatley of Riverdance. Tue-Sat 7.45pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm, ends 17 Aug, £10-£32.50. St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) ⊖ Leicester Square.

JACKSON'S LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE
Mosaics '96: Bimba Classical South Indian *dance. Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £4. Archway* Rd, N6 (0181-341 4421) ⊖ Highgate.

PURCELL ROOM
Nandana: The Vibrations of Sound Exploration of sound through poetry, rhythm and movement. Tonight 7.30pm. £8.50, concs £6.50. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/⊖ Waterloo.

BALLROOM, MAIN FOYER, ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL: BLITZ '96
Concrete Jungle Showcases of dance styles in a clubbing atmosphere. Today 12.15pm-1.30pm (Showcase 1), 6pm-7.15pm (Showcase 2) free.
Street Dance Contemporary street dance and latin music from Davie Rae and Jazz Co-Tech. *Sun 1pm. Free.*
Dance North East! A variety of North Eastern youth groups perform works by Dance City. Sun 2pm. Free.
Passage to Passion A large cast spanning three generations perform a powerful vision of humanity. Sun 4.30pm. Free.
New Work North Acclaimed and up-and-coming Northern choreographers dynamic works. Sun 6pm. Free. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) ⊖ Waterloo.

CLASSICAL

London

ST JAMES'S CHURCH
Virtuosi of London/Goodchild Baroque works performed by candlelight. Sun 8pm. £6-£15. Piccadilly, W1 (0171-437 5053) ⊖ Piccadilly.

KENWOOD
English Sinfonia/Moss Works from Vienna by Schubert, Mozart and Beethoven, his *Eroica Symphony.* Tonight 7.30pm. £13.50 & £10.50, concs £9.50. Hampstead Lane, NW3 (0171-413 1443) ⊖ Golders Green, then 210 bus.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL
National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/Daniel Varese's *Ameriques,* Gershwin's *American in Paris* and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring.* Tonight 7.30pm. £8.
Stravinsky Day *The Soldier's Tale,* semi-staged, from the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. Sun 3pm. £4.
Stravinsky Day Continues with *The Fairy's Kiss* and *The Flood,* conducted by Oliver Knussen. Sun 5.30pm. £4-£12.
Stravinsky Day Final concert of [illegible] Sun 9.30pm. £4-£12. Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) ⊖ High Street Kensington.

OPERA

Lewes

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA
Ermione A further run for last year's production of Rossini, directed by Graham Vick and conducted by Andrew Davis. Tonight 5.55pm. £10-£110.
Arabella A revival of John Cox's production *of Richard Strauss' and Hugo von* Hofmannsthal's last collaboration. Sun 4.15pm. £10-£110. Glyndebourne House (01273-813813)

London

HOLLAND PARK THEATRE
Il Barbiere di Siviglia Rossini's opera in a staging by Opera Europa. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm. £20, concs £14.50. Kensington High St, W8 (0171-602 7856) ⊖ High St Kensington.

POP

Cardiff

Big Weekend Festival With James Taylor Quartet, Roberto Pla, Alias Ron Kavana (Sat), Paul Carrack, Gil Scott-Heron, Raw Stylus, Big Town Playboys (Sun). *City Hall Lawns* CF (01222-871922) Today & Sun, 1.15pm-10.30pm, free.

Cropredy

Cropredy Festival Fairport Conventions's annual folk knees-up, with Fairport Convention, The Hellecasters, David Hughes & Gerry Conway, The King Earl Boogie Band. *Cropredy Festival* Near Banbury (01869-337142) Tonight 9.30am, £37-£40.

London

Sacrosanct gothic weekend Rosetta Stone, Still Patient?, Die Laughing, Swans Of Avon (Sat). Vendemmian, Garden of Delight, Dreadful Shadows (Sun). *Astoria* CharX Rd WC2 (0171-434 0403) ⊖ Tott Ct Rd. Tonight & Sun, 7pm. £13.75 (weekend ticket).
The Mad Professor *London dub master* plays a reggae all-nighter. *The Powerhaus* Seven Sisters Road N4 (0171-344 0044) ⊖ Finsbury Park. Tonight 9pm-6am, £8.
The Divine Comedy, A House Literary Irish pop from Neil Hannon's DC. *York Hall* Old Ford Road E2 (0171-287 0932) ⊖ Bethnal Green. Tonight 7.30pm, £7.50.

Stevenage

Oasis The unstoppable Gallagher brothers gather the tribes, with guests The Prodigy, Manic Street Preachers, Ocean Colour Scene (Sat), Manic Street Preachers, Charlatans, Dreadzone, & Kula Shaker (Sun). *Knebworth Park* (0800-614595) Today & Sun, 12noon, phone for availability.

jazz, world, folk etc

Brecon

Brecon Jazz Festival Europe's premiere jazz fest continues with Paul Motian, Gordon Beck, Phil Woods & Cedar Walton, Charles Brown, Mingus Big Band, Joshua Redman and Zila (Sat), and Trilok Gurtu, Chico Hamilton, Joe Henderson, Scott Hamilton, Illinois Jacquet, George Melly and Betty Carter (Sun). *Booking Office* (01874-622884) Today & Sun, various times & prices.

London

Stan Tracey Quartet with Gerard Presencer Cantankerous bebop piano master with *trumpet prodigy Gerard Presencer. Bull's Head* Lonsdale Road SW13 (0181-876 5241) BR: Barnes Bridge. Tonight 8pm. £6.
Ealing Jazz Festival With Mike Peters's trad quintet, 'Alabama' Al Eastwood & tenorist Don Weller, Byron Wallen's Nu Troop and Pat (Sat), plus Bill Le Sage Quartet, Paul Carmichael's Xtatic and Liz Fletcher (Sun). *Walpole Park* Mattock Lane W5 (0181-758 5743) BR/⊖ Ealing Broadway. Today & Sun, 2pm-10.15pm, free.
Reuben Wilson *Blue Note-affiliated funk* organist. *Jazz Cafe* Parkway NW1 (0171-344 0044) ⊖ Camden. Tonight 7pm. £12 adv £10.
[illegible]

EVENTS

Beaulieu

Crafts At Beaulieu Exhibition, demonstration and sale of crafts. *Beaulieu Grounds* (01202-842407) Today & Sun. 10am-6pm, £2-£2.50, child free.

Bournemouth

Hot Ice Show Spectacular performances on ice. *Bournemouth International Centre* Exeter Road (01202-297297). Mon-Sat 2.30pm & 8pm, Fri 7.30pm, ends 14 Sep. £14-£5.

Cambridge

Summer Fun Drama, dance, video, puppetry, storytelling and animation workshops, for ages 3-11 years. *Cambridge Drama Centre* Covent Garden, Mill Road (01223-322748) Times vary, ends *30 Aug, £3.50-£35.*

Cardiff

Cardiff Summer Festival 96 Festival of music, circus, comedy, carnival and street entertainment. *Cardiff Summer Festival Information* (01222-871922) Today & Sun, times vary, phone for details.

Cheltenham

Cheltenham Horticultural Society Summer Show Best exhibits awards, children's classes, rural art and photography. *Pittville Pump Room Museum* Albert Road (01242-227979). Today 1pm-4.30pm, £1.

Duxford

The Large Model Flying Display Selection of aircraft with over 70 models on displa. *Duxford Airfield* (01223-835000) Today & Sun, 10am, £3.10-6.20.

London

Carters Royal Berkshire Fair Original steam funfair culminating in a firework display. *Albert Road Recreation Ground* Albert Road (01628-822221) Today & Sun, times vary, *phone for details.*
Capital Kidsline 1996 Advice about London events, for kids and parents. *Capital Radio Kidsline Service* Euston Tower NW1 (0171-222 8070) From July 22, 9am-4pm, ends 30 Aug, free.
Sun, Sand & Sea Carnival club course based on exotic costume creation. *Chats Palace* Brooksby's Walk (0181-533 0227) BR: Homerton High Street. Today 1pm-6pm, ends 24 Aug, phone for details.
Poets, Playwrights & Pianos Trail of discovery through Camden Lock and Primrose Hill. *Chalk Farm Tube Station* Adelaide Road NW1 (0181-881 2933) ⊖ Chalk Farm. Sun 2pm, £4.50, concs £3.50.
London Book Fair Wide range of rare, antiquarian and secondhand books, maps, engraved and decorative prints. *Hotel Russell* Russell Square WC1 (0171-837 6478) ⊖ Russell Square. Sun 2pm-7pm, free.
The Great British Beer Festival Celebration of real ales, ciders and foreign beers. *Olympia* Hammersmith Road W14 (0171-603 3344) ⊖ Earls Court. Today 11am-7pm, £1-£4.50.
Summer On The Square *Eclectic music,* dance and children's entertainment. *Peckham Square* Peckham High St/Rye Lane SE15 (0171-732 3232) BR: Peckham Rye. Today, phone for details, free.
Lambeth Royal Mela Events with an asian theme, including theatre and bands. *Streatham Common* SW16 (0171-926 0168) BR: Streatham. Today & Sun, 2.30pm-7.30pm, free.
Streets Of London Festival Major annual event providing a platform for street theatre. *Streets Of London Festival Information* Various venues, Canary Wharf E14 (01273-821 588) Times vary, ends 11 Sep, phone for details
The Family Activity Cart Design and play in the activity-packed fun for ages 3-12. *Victoria & Albert Museum* Cromwell Road SW7 [illegible]

Milford

Just Desserts [illegible]

Paignton

Summer Holiday Workshops [illegible]

Redhill

Food Festival [illegible]

Church services

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

[illegible]

THE WEEK AHEAD

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Television by Gerard Gilbert	**Modern Times 9pm BBC2.** Three couples discuss their relationships, which exist despite or because of large age gaps. Where do they find these frank people? **Homicide – Life on the Street 10pm C4.** Third series for the Baltimore-set cop show originated by Barry Levinson. Some regulars have gone, but Reed Diamond *joins as an arson detective.* **Woman's World 2.15pm C4** *(above).* Clifton Webb as a business mogul in this office politics comedy.	**Picture This 8pm BBC2.** The husband of academic Dr Elizabeth Howe, the woman murdered on York University campus four years ago, describes his grief and recounts his sense of loss. **War Cries 8pm C4** *(above).* Novelist Robert Wilson airs his views on punishment beating meted out by Northern Irish paramilitaries. **True Stories 9pm C4.** A follow up to *Julia's Baby*, the moving film account of a deaf-and-blind woman who became a mother, this *charts the first year in her child's life.*	**Short Stories 8.30pm C4.** *When a skier broke* his back, he didn't lose his resolve. After winning medals, he now meets a Russian strongman *(above)* who may help him walk again. **Inside Story 10pm BBC1.** If you didn't tire of *Euro* 96, here's an astonishing behind-the-scenes look at an international police operation during the championship. **The War of the Worlds 6pm BBC2.** Oscar-winning special effects in this glorious HG Wells. *adaptation, directed by Byron Haskin.*	***Secret History* 9pm C4.** *What* was the truth behind all those rumours over Harold Wilson's resignation in 1976? Theories explored. **Dark Secret 9.30pm BBC2.** Around 550 young people a year in this country reach puberty as very young children. This programme explores the problems and treatments available. **Defence of the Realm 10pm BBC1** *(above). The* Ministry of Defence subjects itself to more prying. This week, the Trident defence programme *and on board HMS Victorious.*	**Filthy Rich 8pm C4.** Surely this wasn't the working title of this series about the very wealthy. Otherwise why would Tamara Beckwith *(above)* and two affluent chums have agreed to appear? **Pulp Video 9.30pm BBC2.** Caledonian comics aplenty in this promising-looking new sketch show from BBC Scotland. Includes Ronnie *Ancona, Fred MacAuley and Greg Hemphill.* **Schtonk! 12.00am BBC2.** TV premiere for this German movie about a man with a talent for *fakery who ends up writing Hitler's diaries.*
Radio by Robert Hanks	**The Changing Forest 8.40am R4.** Robert Glenister reads five daily extracts from Dennis Potter's autobiographically tinged study of his birthplace, the Forest of Dean, which he revisited in 1961, the setting for much of his best drama.	**Being American 8.30pm R4.** Yet another series on the American Dream, but at least Simon Parkes is making an effort to avoid the clichés. **I Wanna Tell You A Story 9pm R2.** Max Bygraves 50th anniversary in showbiz celebrated. Enough said.	**Tales from the Wildside 8pm R4.** *Four discussions* with groups of people who live cheek by jowl with wildlife, starting with a bunch of hunters and gamekeepers, explaining how they reconcile loving animals with hunting and killing them.	**The Road to Paradise 2pm R4.** After last year's angry debate over allegations of wartime collaboration on the Channel Islands, Julia Pascal's play tells the story of a Jewish refugee on Guernsey: controversial, if nothing else.	**Proms 96 7pm R3.** John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique do the authentic thing, presenting a semi-staged version of Beethoven's *Leonore*, the prototype for *Fidelio* – highly repetitive, but still fascinating.

Sunday television and radio

BBC1

7.45 **Moomin** *(R) (1906633).*

8.10 **Playdays** *(R) (S) (5526904).*

8.30 **Breakfast with Frost** *(53546).*

9.30 **A Great Day Out.** *Vince Henderson explores the* spiritual side of life in the cathedral city of Durham *(S) (6110459).*

10.15 **See Hear!** *(S) (400985).*

10.45 **Cricket – Second Test.** Tony Lewis introduces live coverage of the fourth day's play at Headingley *(S) (9235121).*

12.00 ***CountryFile.*** *John Craven with up-to-date* coverage of rural issues. (Including Weather for the Week Ahead) *(S) (80633).*

12.30 **News; Hungarian Grand Prix** *(S) (654625).*

3.00 **Cartoon** *(7854362).*

3.20 **EastEnders** *(R) (S) (7009188).* *

4.45 **Sister Wendy's Story of Painting.** The nun talks Velasquez, Rembrandt and Poussin. *See Preview, p24 (S) (933898).* *

5.15 **Junior Masterchef 96.** With guests Sebastian Coe and chef Henry Harris of Harvey Nichols's Fifth Floor restaurant *(S) (923411).* *

5.45 **News, Weather** *(684782).* *

6.05 **Regional News** *(887986).*

6.10 **Songs of Praise.** Isla St Clair, she of the *Generation Game*, returns to the fishing villages of the North East of Scotland, where she was born *(S) (328091).* *

6.45 **Antiques Roadshow.** An ancient episode from 1981 presented by Hugh Scully *(S) (636782).* *

7.30 FILM **Uncle Buck.** (John Hughes 1989 US) John Candy stars as the bungling slob looking after his brother's offspring in this over-the-top comedy. Also notable as Macaulay Culkin's first ever film *(S) (83362).* *

9.00 **News; Weather** *(267091).* *

9.15 **Stephen King's The Stand.** Germ-warfare fun based on a Stephen King novel and starring Rob Lowe, Molly Ringwald and Gary Sinise. *See Preview, p24 (S) (116614).* *

10.45 **Match of the Day.** Highlights of the FA Charity Shield, *the traditional curtain-raiser of the* domestic football season, as Manchester United take on Newcastle United at Wembley. Commentary by Clive Tyldesley *(S) (793324).*

11.35 **Cricket – Second Test.** Richie Benaud introduces highlights of the fourth day's play from Headingley *(S) (351782).*

12.15 FILM ***Number One*** *(Tom Gries 1969 US). Chunky* Charlton Heston is a New Orleans quarterback who hits the bottle and starts womanising in this *very poor movie (861454).*

1.55 **Weather** *(6925522). To 2.00am.*

REGIONS. Scot: 10.45am Cricket – Second Test and Golf

BBC2

6.15 **Open University:** Pure Maths *(3832053).* 6.40 Maths Models and Methods *(2702879).* 7.05 Linking Into the Future *(3191411).* * 7.30 Plants: Problems with Water *(1976492).* 7.55 Toulouse: Money and Power in Provincial France *(3198350).* 8.20 Brain and Behaviour *(5504782).* 8.45 Putting Training to Work *(7064411).*

9.10 **The Littlest Pet Shop** *(S) (2069695).*

9.30 **Fully Booked** *(S) (454427).*

12.00 ***Sunday Grandstand.*** *With Steve Rider. 12.05* Cricket - Second Test: Coverage from Headingley with commentary by Richie Benaud, Geoff Boycott, David Gower, Asif Iqbal and Tony Lewis. 1.05 Yachting: A look at the the ever-popular Ultra 30 series, won last year by Russell Peters. With commentary by Malcolm McKeag and Helen Rollason. 1.35 Cricket *(S) (3824169).*

6.20 **News Round-Up** *(149695).*

6.50 **Staying Alive.** David Dimbleby examines the dilemmas thrown up by increased life expectancy in this concluding and second report *(908411).* *

7.30 **Rough Guide to the World.** Magenta DeVine and Simon O'Brien visit Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan, with its famous pink buildings *(S) (168527).* *

8.10 **Hungarian Grand Prix** *(S) (768701).*

8.55 **Secrets of a Long Life.** Sandi Toksvig narrates this *short film in which some of the oldest people in* the world reflect on life after 100; one explains the trick as "keeping breathing" *(S) (525966).* *

9.05 **Black Daisies for the Bride.** Highly affecting film by poet Tony Harrison which pays tribute to people with Alzheimer's disease. Filmed in the High Royds Hospital in Yorkshire, it combines *poetry, song and drama to revive the memories of* the very ill patients *(S) (593430).* *

10.00 **Murder One.** A combination of the final three episodes of the cult series, shown over two nights last week. The jury finally reach their verdict in the Avedon trial and Teddy thinks he has at last found out the truth (Followed by *Weatherview*) *(34527140)* *

12.15 FILM **Wanda Nevada** (Peter Fonda 1979 US). Remarkable chiefly for being the only film starring Henry and Peter Fonda, this finds Peter winning Brooke Shields in a poker game and heading off to prospect for gold *(585522).*

2.00 **The Learning Zone:** Summer Nights: Music Maestro Essentials *(21909).* 4.00 Languages: Greek Language and People 3 & 4 *(6229725).* 4.50 French Experience *(65259676).* 5.00 Business and Work: Spain Means Business *(86676).* 5.30 The Essential History of Europe *(71657). To 6.00am.*

REGIONS. Scot: 12.00pm Sunday Grandstand.

ITV/London

6.00 **GMTV** *(79072).*

8.00 **Disney's Road Hog** *(8039275).*

9.25 **Tales from the Cryptkeeper** *(S) (7692527).*

9.50 **James Bond Jr** *(S) (6816701).*

10.15 **Link.** Disabled activists look towards Europe to *increase their civil rights (S) (3544530).* *

10.30 **Morning Worship.** From Bitterne Shopping Precinct, Southampton. *(S) (98966).* *

11.30 **The Rock That Rolled Away** *(6140017).*

11.50 **Many Questions.** With Olivia O'Leary *(2399985).*

12.30 **Citytalk** *(S) (92053).*

1.00 **News & Weather** *(45048275).* *

1.10 **The Agenda.** With guest Douglas Adams, author *of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (7993966).*

2.00 **Capital Holidays.** Tenerife, Turkey, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Ireland *(3492).*

2.30 **International Athletics** Presented by Jim Rosenthal from Crystal Palace. Commentary is by Alan Parry, Peter Matthews and Steve Ovett *(62966).* *

4.30 **Treasures.** A Spitalfield home, plus advice on how to get old jukeboxes rocking and rolling again. Meanwhile, lottery winner Mike Antonucci joins the champagne set at a grand country house auction *(701).*

5.00 **Upstairs, Downstairs.** Mrs Bridges the cook gets *into considerable trouble with the police, the* naughty girl *(R) (3879).*

6.00 **London Tonight** (Followed by LWT Weather) *(150701).* *

6.25 **News and Weather** *(287922).* *

6.35 **Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman** *(S) (859546).* *

7.30 **Faith in the Future** *(R) (S) (430).* *

8.00 ***Wycliffe.*** *Jack Shepherd's detective investigates a* strangling from 11 years before *(S) (3237).* *

9.00 **News and Weather** *(269459).* *

9.15 **Some Kind of Life.** Jane Horrocks stars as a wife whose husband is badly injured in a motorbike accident. *See Preview, p24 (S) (536614).* *

11.15 FILM **Wild Card** (Mel Damski 1992 US). Powers Boothe stars as a gambling minister who arrives in small-town Texas to investigate the mystery surrounding his friend's death in this boring modern-day western *(140614).* *

12.50 FILM **Nightlife** (Daniel Taplitz 1989 US). A female vampire pitches up in Mexico and is pursued *romantically by a doctor in this weirdly unfunny* hokum *(479657).*

2.35 **The Chart Show** *(R) (S) (8835560).*

3.30 **Murder, She Wrote** *(R) (8463003).*

4.25 **Night Shift** *(R) (42458270).*

4.35 **Flux** *(R) (S) (9915305).*

5.30 **News** *(68183). To 6.00am.*

Channel 4

6.40 **The Great Maratha** *(2720275).*

7.05 **Madeline** *(S) (8615817).*

7.35 **The Real Life Adventures of Professor Thompson** *(1981324).*

8.05 **Droopy** *(R) (S) (5512701).*

8.25 **Two Stupid Dogs** *(S) (5598121).*

8.50 **Cadillacs and Dinosaurs** *(S) (8537053).*

9.20 **Saved by the Bell** *(R) (7691898).* *

9.45 **Sister Sister** *(S) (401614).*

10.15 **Happy Days.** Richie, Potsie and Ralph try to convince some college girls they're loaded foreign businessmen *(R) (2657966).*

10.40 **Mission Impossible** *(5216053).* *

11.40 **The Waltons** *(R) (2385701).* *

12.45 FILM **The Man Who Loved Redheads** (Harold French 1954 UK). Superbly witty Terence Rattigan comedy starring Moira Shearer in a quadruple role. With Roland Culver, Gladys Cooper, Denholm Elliott *(76497898).* *

2.20 FILM **A Guide for the Married Man** (Gene Kelly 1967 US). Hangdog Walter Matthau is a married man coached in the art of adultery by Robert Morse in this nicely judged comedy *(618053).* *

4.00 **Love and Marriage** *(R) (S) (459).* *

4.30 **Too Close to Heaven.** Gospel music reaches the Great Depression and heads into the Sixties in this second of a three-part series. Featuring archive footage of Aretha Franklin, Sam Cooke, Mahalia Jackson and others *(S) (2406701).* *

5.35 **Desmond's** *(R) (S) (895701).* *

6.05 **Babylon 5** *(S) (220850).* *

7.00 FILM **Daleks - Invasion Earth 2150 A.D** (Gordon Flemyng 1966 UK). Peter Cushing stars as the Doctor, returning to Earth in AD 2150 in this *dreadful TV spin-off. Bernard Cribbins provides* the light relief *(35053).* *

8.30 **Beauty and the Bullet.** Mountain gazelle problems in the Golan Heights *(R) (3633).* *

9.00 **Brainspotting.** Ken Campbell with a personal investigation into the workings of the mind. *See Preview, p24 (S) (4343).* *

10.00 FILM **Buffalo Bill and the Indians** (Robert Altman 1976 US). Anti-structure western with Paul Newman and Burt Lancaster: likely to bore the pants off traditionalists *(7324).* *

12.00 FILM **Brewster McCloud** (Robert Altman 1970 US). Way-out satire starring Bud Cort as a youth who lives under the Houston Astrodome, teaching *himself to fly with the help of a pair of home-made* wings and guardian angel Sally Kellerman *(51980).* *

2.00 FILM **Sadhna** (B R Chopra 1958 India). When a man gets a woman to pretend to be his wife for his mother's benefit, things start to go awry in this moral tale *(35742). To 3.30am.*

ITV/Regions

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm Anglia News and Business *(93053).* 2.00 The Making of Independence Day *(3492).* 4.30 Film: Sleepers *(5369430).* 5.55 Island Soldiers *(693430). 6.15 Anglia News and Weather (182558).* 12.50am Film: First Love *(479657).* 2.35am Cyber Cafe *(1385386).* 3.05am Best of British Motor Sport *(84178657).* 3.35-4.30am The Crime Hour *(69139471).*

TYNE TEES/YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30pm *Tyne:* Newsweek *(6729459). Yorks:* De Medici Kitchen *(6729459).* 12.55 Regional News *(40133053).* 2.00 World of Wonder *(87465614).* 2.25 Cartoon *(81493695).* 4.30 Cartoon Time *(4429343).* 4.45 Bugs vs Daffy: Battle of the Music Video Stars *(928966).* 5.15 Murder, She Wrote *(3207053).* 6.10 Regional News *(514985).* 12.50am Highway to Heaven *(7848096).* 1.45am Film: Azaad *(43803812).* 4.30-5.30am Jobfinder *(39102).*

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm Central Newsweek *(6729459).* 12.55 Central News *(40133053).* 2.00 Right or Wrong *(3492).* 4.30 Murder, She Wrote *(9151430).* 5.20 40 Years of ITV *(8999633).* 6.20 Central News and Weather *(311985).* 3.30am Jobfinder *(238725).* 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye *(3542812).*

HTV

As London except: 12.25pm *West:* Cat Crazy *(6951898). Wales:* International Rugby Sevens *(6951898).* 12.55 Regional News *(40133053).* 2.00 *West:* The Thames Path *(3492). Wales:* International Rugby Sevens *(3492).* 4.30 *West.* Emmerdale *(5242256). Wales:* International Rugby Sevens *(5242256).* 5.10 *West:* Baywatch *(8839817). Wales:* Emmerdale *(2384169).* 5.50 *Wales: A Visit to the Eisteddfod (168169). 5.55 West:* The Making of Independence Day *(176188).* 6.20 Regional News *(311985).* 12.50am Film: First Love *(479657).* 2.35am Cyber Cafe *(1385386).* 3.05am Best of British Motor Sport *(84178657).* 3.35-4.30am The Crime Hour *(69139471).*

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30pm Warner Cartoon *(2283091).* 12.50 Meridian News *(33255140).* 2.00 The Pier *(87465614).* 2.25 *The Listings (81493695).* 4.30 Film: Carry on Cruising *(31748614).* 6.10 Breakaways *(437625).* 6.15 Meridian News and Weather *(182558).* 12.50am Film: First Love *(479657).* 2.35am Cyber Cafe *(1385386).* 3.05am Best of British Motor Sport *(84178657).* 3.35-4.30am The Crime Hour *(6913947).*

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update *(6729459).* 12.55 Westcountry News *(40133053).* 2.00 Hot Spots *(3492).* 4.30 Westcountry Weekend Match *(1363256).* 4.55 International Air Tattoo 96 *(1857968).* 5.45 The Woodward File *(917850).* 6.15 Westcountry News *(182558).* 12.50am Film: First Love *(479657).* 2.35am Cyber Cafe *(1385386).* 3.05am Best of British Motor Sport *(84178657).* 3.35-4.30am The Crime Hour *(69139471).*

S4C

As C4 except: 7.10am Madeline *(3118188).* 7.35 The Real Life *(1981324).* 9.45 Hangin' with Mr Cooper *(401614).* 10.15 Boy Meets World *(2657966).* 12.40pm Sister Sister *(1237275).* 1.40 Film: The Blob *(8893140).* 3.10 Babylon 5 *(1981898).* 4.05 Party of Five *(5390459).* 5.00 Pobol Y Cwm *(26093968).* 6.55 Eisteddfod *(833508).* 7.55 News *(753492).* 8.00 Pengelli *(857169).* 8.35 Eisteddfod *(4855614).* 10.00-1.00am Film: Nashville *(155362).*

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99.8MHz FM)

7.00am Clive Warren 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Trevor Nelson 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Oasis: What's the Story? 8.00 Oasis Live at Knebworth 11.00 *Andy Kershaw 1.00* Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00-6.30am Clive Warren

Radio 2

(88-90.2MHz FM)

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs 11.00 Parkinson's Sunday Supplement 1.00 Desmond Carrington 3.00 Benny Green 4.00 A Diva Sang 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Pam Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith 10.00 Partners in Rhyme 12.05 Sue McGarry 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

Radio 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

7.00am Sacred and Profane.

8.50 Choice of Three.

9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning.

12.30 Full Score.

1.00 New for Old: Myths Retold. (4/8).

1.15 The Sunday Concert.

3.00 Spirit of the Age.

4.00 BBC Proms 1996. Simon Russell Beale (narrator), Birmingham Contemporary Music Group/Daniel Harding. Stravinsky: The Soldier's Tale.

5.00 The Sunday Feature: Minds Growing out of Ourselves. Peter Kemp reappraises the range of HG Wells' literary output.

5.45 Bliss. Four Masks. Kathron Sturrock (piano).

6.00 Proms News.

6.30 BBC Proms 1996. New London Chamber Choir, BBC Symphony Orchestra. Stravinsky: The Fairy's Kiss. (7.15-7.35 Stravinsky and Eternity.) Gesualdo, arr Stravinsky: Tres Sacrae Cantiones. Stravinsky: Monumentum pro Gesualdo di Venosa ad CD annum; The Flood.

8.35 BBC Proms Lecture 96. 25 years on, how does the legacy of Stravinsky speak to the contemporary musical world? American scholar Richard Taruskin, Professor of Music at the University of California at Berkeley explains.

9.30 BBC Proms 1996. Taverner Choir, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group/Andrew Parrott. Stravinsky: Cantata; Concerto for piano and wind; Mass.

10.45 The Sunday Play. *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf.* By Ntozake Shange. With PP Arnold and Pat Bowie.

12.00 Interpretations on Record.

1.15 Through the Night.

1.16 Puccini. Turandot.

3.15 Rosamonde Quartet.

4.35 Russian Orthodox Chants.

5.00-6.00am Sequence.

Radio 4

(92.4-94.6MHz FM; 198kHz LW)

6.00am News Briefing.

6.10 Something Understood.

6.55 Weather.

7.00 News.

7.10 Sunday Papers.

7.15 On Your Farm.

7.40 Sunday.

8.50 The Week's Good Cause.

8.55 Weather.

9.00 News.

9.10 Sunday Papers.

9.15 Letter from America.

9.30 Morning Service.

10.15 The Archers.

11.15 (FM) Mediumwave.

11.15 (LW) Test Match Special. Commentary on the fourth day's play in the Second Test.

11.45 (FM) The New Europeans. (4/6).

12.15 (LW) In the Psychiatrist's Chair. *See Choice, above.*

12.55 (FM) Weather.

1.00 The World This Weekend.

1.55 Shipping Forecast.

2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.

2.00 (FM) Gardeners' Question Time.

2.30 (FM) The Classic Serial: *The Aran Islands.* By JM Synge. (1/2).

3.30 (FM) Pick of the Week.

4.15 (FM) Islam: A Faith to Question?

5.00 (FM) News; Jerusalem Lives.

5.30 (FM) Poets' Poetry Please!

5.50 Shipping Forecast.

5.55 (FM) Weather.

5.55 (LW) *Test Match Special.*

6.00 (FM) Six O'Clock News.

6.15 (FM) Feedback.

6.30 (FM) The Tablecloth Trick.

7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: *Time Hops.* (3/5).

7.30 First Person Singular. (2/6).

8.00 (FM) Natural History Programme.

8.00 (LW) Open University: In Other Words: Scientifically Speaking. 8.30 South Africa and the End of Apartheid. 9.00 Flying in Birds. 9.20 American Conversations: Tom Bradley. 9.40 Talking about the Enlightenment.

8.30 (FM) What If...? World War I.

9.00 (FM) Growing Spaces.

9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth.

9.59 Weather.

10.00 News.

10.15 Medicine Now.

10.45 Breakaway.

11.15 In Search of the National Interest. (1/5).

11.45 Seeds of Faith. (1/2).

12.00 News.

12.20 Bells on Sunday.

12.30 The Late Story: *Holy Spirit in the Phone* Box by Kath McKay.

12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00-6.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

(693, 909kHz MW)

6.05am Brief Lives 6.30 Brian Hayes 9.05 Sunday with Mair 11.35 Special Assignment 12.05 The Big Byte 12.35 The Game's Up 1.05 Sunday Sport 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Box 8.05 Clear the Air 8.35 Cult Fiction *See Choice, above.* 9.05 US PGA Golf 12.05 Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM)

6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 The King of Instruments 4.00 Discoveries 7.00 Countdown Top 10 8.00 Evening Concert. Bach, Elgar, Mozart, Boccherini. 10.00 Howard's Week 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00-6.00am *Mark Griffiths*

Virgin Radio

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM)

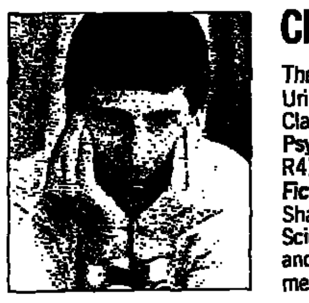
6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Horne 6.00 Lynn Parsons 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Randall Lee Rose

World Service

(198kHz LW)

1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 Development 96 *1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk* 2.30 Short Story 2.45 On the Move 3.00 Newsday 3.30 China's Cultural Revolution 4.00 World News 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Jazz for the Asking 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30 Off the Shelf 5.45-6.00am Country Style

Choice



The supposedly amazing mind of Uri Geller *(left)* is under Anthony Clare's investigation **In the Psychiatrist's Chair** (12.15pm R4). More strangeness in **Cult Fiction** (8.35pm R5): William Shaw finds out what connects Scientology, Branch Davidians and The Family, and what their members get out of it.

Satellite

SKY ONE

6.00am Hour of Power *(33546).* 7.00 Undun *(5072411).* 12.00 The Hit Mix *(41256).* 1.00 Star Trek *(50904).* 2.00 The World at War *(28527).* 3.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine *(43140).* 4.00 WWF *(62275).* 5.00 Great Escapes *(4689).* 5.30 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers *(9072).* 6.00 The Simpsons *(6985).* 6.30 The Simpsons *(7237).* 7.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine *(80169).* 8.00 Melrose Place *(99817).* 9.00 Queen *(92904).* 11.00 Manhunter *(44053).* 12.00 60 Minutes *(15102).* 1.00 Sunday Comics *(41102).* 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play *(8778164).*

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Challenge to Be Free (1972) *(22188).* 8.00 One of Our Spies Is Missing (1965) *(19879).* 10.00 Destination Moon (1950) *(33237).* 12.00 Young Ivanhoe (1994) *(25430).* 2.00 Gypsy (1993) *(81764695).* 4.20 Young at Heart (1995) *(56641099).* 6.00 Father Hood (1993) *(83256).* 8.00 Radioland Murders (1994) *(88701).* 10.00 Even Cowgirls Get the Blues (1994) *(734817).* 11.45 The Movie Show *(856275).* 12.15 Mistress (1992) *(571454).* 2.05 Back to School (1986) *(574218).* 3.40-6.00am The Marseilles Contract (1974) *(26161164).*

MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am *To Hell and Back (1955) (13430).* 8.00 Freddie as FRO7 (1992) *(12891).* 10.00 Exodus (1960) *(9213169).* 1.50 Tropic Zone (1953) *(87474237).* 3.30 E! Features *(3411).* 4.00 Three Ninjas Knuckle Up (1995) *(5140).* 6.00 The Face on the Milk Carton (1995) *(81898).* 8.00 City Slickers: The Legend of Curly's Gold (1994) *(86343).* 10.00 Interview with the Vampire (1994) *(96741891).* 12.05 *Killing Zoe* (1994) *(582560).* 1.50 Bloodlust: Subspecies III (1993) *(6508015).* 3.15-6.00am The Friends of Eddie *Coyle* (1973) *(20226947).*

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00pm The Man in the Iron Mask (1939) *(46072).* 2.00 Follow the Fleet (1936) *(72188).* 4.00 Captains Courageous (1937) *(6430).* 6.00 Can't Stop the Music (1980) *(52324).* 8.00 Cape Fear (1962) *(64169)* 10.00 Hard to Kill (1990) *(410091).* 11.40 Damien: Omen II (1978) *(101985).* 1.30 Critical Condition (1987) *(313473).* 3.10-5.10am Can't Stop the Music (1980) *(625676).*

UK GOLD

7.00am Record Breakers *(2476879).* 7.30 Blue Peter *(2488614).* 8.00 When the Boat Comes In *(9891966).* 9.00 Survivors *(1710701).* 10.00 Blake's Seven *(2484898).* 11.00 Dr Who *(8692053).* 1.00 Please Sir! (1971) *(6746091).* 3.00 The Bill *(74027140).* 5.20 Porridge *(4709817).* 6.00 The Good Old Days *(5735072).* 6.55 Dick Emery *(3446527).* 7.20 The Les Dawson Show *(9908492).* 8.00 The Duchess of Duke Street *(99403879).* 9.05 Boys from the Blackstuff *(58276091).* 10.20 The Bob Monkhouse Show *(5503256).* 11.20 Film: Hannah and Her Sisters (1986) *(2535343).* 1.20-7.00am Shopping *(9849386).*

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Super League *(58643).* 9.00 Aussie Rules Football *(73091).* 11.00 Cantona: The Perfect Story *(15964).* 12.00 Opposite Lock *(43850).* 2.00 FA Charity Shield *(3385053).* 5.30 Futbol Mundial *(2188).* 6.00 Opposite Lock *(12782).* 8.00 Cricket *(24527).* 10.00 Super League *(36362).* 11.00 FA Charity Shield *(78904).* 12.30-2.30am Aussie Rules Football *(18909).*

SKY SPORTS 2

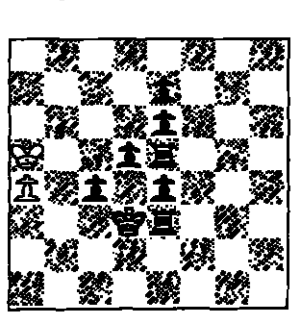
7.00am Soccer Extra *(9246411).* 11.00 Watersports *(2634546).* 12.00 Golf: Austrian Open *(5667121).* 2.00 Speedway *(8226701).* 3.30 Ocean Africa *(8371817).* 4.00 Golf: US PGA *Championships (2129148).* 11.00 Golf: Austrian Open *(7847184).* 12.30-1.00am Windsurfing *(1786015).*

LIVE TV

6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 *Mind & Body* 8.00 The Why Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Fate & Fortune 9.30 Fashion 10.00 Revelations 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Mind & Body 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Revelations 12.30 The Why Files 1.00 Looking for Love 1.30 Fate & Fortune 2.00 Sport 3.00 Canary Wharf 4.30 Fashion 5.00 Revelations 5.30 Looking for Love 6.00 Fashion 6.30 Sport 7.00 Pin Money 7.30 Revelations 8.00 The Why Files 8.30 Spanish Archer 9.03 Fate & Fortune 9.30 Looking for Love 10.03 Sport 10.30 Stand Up 11.03 Fate & Fortune 11.30 The *Sex Show 12.03 Revelations 12.30* Kiss TV 1.30-6.00am Night-Time Programmes

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston



Here's a first-prize-winning *problem composed by* C Jonsson in 1973. It's a series help-mate, which means that Black must make all the moves to reach a position in which White can mate in one. None of Black's moves, except possibly the last, may give check. And he has 35 moves to do it.

The mating move must clearly be axb5, which means that the black king will have to be on c6, surrounded by his own men. The piece on b7 will have to be a bishop, which means that the d-pawn has to promote. In fact, all the pawns must promote, which will take up 20 moves. The king needs three more to get to c6, which cuts things fine for getting the promoted men to their destinations. Here's the answer:

1.c3, 2.c2, 3.c1=R, 4.Rc7, 5.Kc4 6.Rb3! 7.e3, 8.e2, 9.e1=N! *(a bishop is impossible as it gives check)* 10.Nd3, 11.Nc5, 12.d4 (the knight had to get to c5 to allow this without a check from the rook on e5) 13.d3, 14.d2, 15.d1=B, 16.Bf3, 17.Bb7, 18:Kd5, 19.Kc6, 20.Rd5, 21.e5, 22.e4, 23.e3, 24.e2, 25.e1=R, 26.Re6, 27.Red6, 28.e5, 29.e4, 30.e3, 31.e2, 32.e1=R, 33.Ree7, 34.Red7, 35.Rb5+ when *axb5 is mate. Bravo!*

Bridge Alan Hiron

"Seven on a finesse!" explained South (an incurable optimist) when he saw dummy on this deal. It did not work out like that, and declarer lost sight of his prime objective – giving himself the best chance of 12 tricks in his small slam.

South opened 2♠, North responded ♡H, and South rebid his spades. *North next* showed his diamonds but, as this need not have been a five-card suit, South bid his spades a third time. Feeling that it would be too much to expect his partner to hold solid spades and two outside aces, North jumped to 6♠ and all passed.

West led ♣K against the slam and declarer made his ill-judged remark. He won with ♣A, crossed to ♢K, and discarded his losing clubs on dummy's top hearts. So far, so good, but when he finessed the queen of trumps, West showed out. Still untroubled, South attempted to reach the table again with a second diamond, but East was unkind enough to ruff. There was now no way to pick up the king of trumps and the slam failed.

Well, how should South have played? Clearly he cannot cope if West holds all the missing trumps, but he can *manage comfortably enough* against the actual distribution of East holding them all as well as a singleton diamond. At trick two, declarer should cash the ace of trumps. Then he crosses to a diamond, pitches his losing clubs on the top hearts, and (with no need of a second diamond entry to dummy) finesses ♠7 and loses only one trump trick – to the king.

Game all; dealer South

	North	
	♠6 3 ♡A K 7 6 2 ♢K Q J 8 3 ♣10	
West ♠*none* ♡10 8 5 4 3 ♢10 9 6 5 ♣K Q J 9		**East** ♠K 10 5 2 ♡Q J 9 ♢2 ♣7 6 5 4 2
	South ♠A Q J 9 8 7 4 ♡none ♢A 7 4 ♣A 8 3	

Perplexity

Doo kp gshi:

Alex ku wkh ribx mxiq kp wkh oxuuxfrwp ykxoky:

rqh, wzr, ymwjj, jsyv, jmzi, vla, ... ?

All a bit cryptic this week, we're afraid, but a Larousse *Desk Reference Encyclopedia* will still be awarded to the first correct answer opened *on 21 August. Answers to:* Saturday Pastimes, the *Independent*, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

27 July answers:
EVE/DID = .TALKTALK... as an infinitely recurring decimal has, as the only possible solution, EVE = 242, DID = 303, and TALK = 7986
Winner: A Kilburn, of *Crediton, Devon.*

The big picture

Belle Epoque
Sat 10.25pm C4

There is far more to Spanish cinema than Almodovar, as *Belle Epoque* reminds us. Fernando Trueba's beautifully shot romance, set in the Spain of 1931, tells the tale of how, on the eve of the declaration of the Republic, a young soldier (Jorge Sanz, *above*) from the King's army in Madrid deserts and hides out in a brothel. Here, he meets an ageing artist who invites him back to his substantial country home, where the soldier succumbs to the charms of each of the artist's four daughters in turn. This joyous romantic comedy picked up the 1994 Oscar for Best Foreign Film.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND

by Tina Ogle

The Business Sat 6.30pm BBC2
Stephen King's The Stand Sat and Sun 9.15pm BBC1
Sister Wendy's Story of Painting Sun 4.45pm BBC1
Brainspotting Sun 9pm C4
Some Kind of Life Sun 9.15pm ITV

"Well it's bad General, but it could be worse." So says a military minion to his broodingly bald boss in part one of **Stephen King's The Stand**, (Sat and Sun BBC1). He was referring, of course, to the deadly virus that has packed its bags and is currently touring America, laying waste to all life. But he could equally have been talking about the August television schedules. Here, recognisable human life is a little hard to find until Ken Campbell hoves into view. Reassuringly bald and bushy about the eyes, Ken is presenting the first in a three-part series on the workings of the human mind. **Brainspotting** (Sun C4) begins with an investigation into consciousness, or "what it's likeness", as Ken consults a range of experts who attempt to explain the show that is going on inside our heads. Getting your head around thinking about thinking might tie you up in mental knots, but Ken is on hand to unravel them. His breezy irreverence should shake out those cerebral cobwebs in style.

Which is a lot more than can be said for the dreaded "teleplay" of Stephen King's aforementioned horror-fest, which is likely to cause symptoms in its viewers similar to the effects of its virus. Victims start to cough innocently, then expand violently until they're pink and yellow, and then they keel over. The only apparent way to avoid this fate is to dress up as an inflatable pea-pod. But if you like the thought of Gary Sinise in a tight T-shirt or Rob Lowe playing a deaf mute, then you may want to stay with it to its unpleasant, four-part, end.

A much better bet is **Some Kind of Life** (Sun ITV), a one-off drama from Kay Mellor, who wrote the critically acclaimed *Band of Gold*. This film explores what happens to a woman when her husband becomes childlike after a motorcycle accident. Jane Horrocks underplays the consequent emotions of the wife beautifully, while Ray Stevenson is always convincing as a man thrown violently back into childhood. Practical as well as emotional issues are addressed, and the tension between the victim's mother, played by Gwen Taylor in typically fine form, and his wife rings achingly true. The script meanders rather, and there's too much needless exposition, but this still manages to be involving and touching drama.

If you've ever wondered, as you queued bitterly in a music festival beer tent, whose pockets you were lining then **The Business** (Sat BBC2) can provide the answers. Narrated dolefully by John Walters, this profiles two of music management's biggest boys. Charismatic Irishman Vince Power, a former second-hand furniture salesman, proves himself a master of understatement. "I think I found a niche in the market," is about all he will say of his multi-million pound Mean Fiddler empire. Meanwhile, Tribute's Tony Hollingsworth remains calm as he orchestrates massive music events around the world and rakes in the cash. That's showbusiness.

One woman who certainly understands the entertainment principle is Sister Wendy. The perky nun this week addresses the golden age of painting in France, Spain and Holland, but somehow the topic never matters in **Sister Wendy's Story of Painting** (Sun BBC1). Sure, you absorb some analysis, but it's the hypnotic way she inclines her head and fixes you with a budgerigar bright gaze that keeps you reeled in. She's a reassuring fixture in a very thin week.

The big match

FA Charity Shield
Sun 2pm Sky Sports, 10.45pm BBC1

Judging by the thousands who turned out to greet him in Newcastle earlier this week, Alan Shearer *(above)* mania has gripped Tyneside. The manufacturers of replica black-and-white Number 9 shirts must be particularly gleeful at the arrival of the £15m man from Blackburn Rovers. His first match for Newcastle gives added spice to the FA Charity Shield against perennial – and sometimes bitter – rivals Manchester United, who are said to have tried to sign Shearer themselves this summer. Let the (nine-month) battle commence.

Saturday television and radio

BBC 1

7.25 **News, Weather** *(2293132).*
7.30 **Children's BBC:** Oscar's Orchestra. 7.55 Felix the Cat. 8.10 Robinson Sucroe. 8.30 Bucky O'Hare. *8.55 The Raccoons. 9.20 Mighty Max.* 9.45 Grange Hill. 10.10 Sweet Valley High. 10.35 The O Zone.
10.42 ***Weather*** *(7269949).*
10.45 **Grandstand.** Introduced by Steve Rider. 10.50 Cricket – Second Test – Coverage of the third day's play in the Second Test between England and Pakistan from Headingley. Commentary by Richie Benaud, Geoffrey Boycott, David Gower, Asif Iqbal and Tony Lewis. 1.00 News 1.05 Touring Cars – The latest round of the AutoTrader RAC British Touring Car Championship from Knockhill. Commentary by Murray Walker. 1.35 Cricket 2.40 Racing From Haydock – 2.45 The Harvey Jones Rated Stakes. Commentary by Jim McGrath, Julian Wilson and Jimmy Lindley. 2.55 Cricket 3.10 Racing From Haydock – 3.15 The Rose of Lancaster Stakes. 3.25 Cricket 3.40 Racing From Haydock – 3.50 The Coral Handicap. 4.00 Cricket 4.45 News Round-Up. *(S) (66935359).*
5.15 ***News, Weather*** *(7635120).* *
5.25 **Regional News and Weather** *(3766861).*
5.30 FILM **Dad's Army** (Norman Cohen 1971 UK). *Old stories are rehashed in this feature-length Home Guard comedy which is not as tight as the series. Stars the usual cast including Arthur Lowe, John Le Mesurier and Clive Dunn (82558584).* *
7.05 **Due South.** The squeaky clean Mountie is forced to try and get himself arrested when his partner ends up behind bars for allegedly threatening a witness *(S) (928836).* *
7.50 **The National Lottery Live** *(S) (536213).*
8.05 **Casualty.** Mike makes a big decision *(R) (S) (521768).* *
8.55 **News and Sport, Weather** *(392126).* *
9.15 **The Stand.** Part one of four of this deadly virus fable based on a Stephen King novel starring Molly *Ringwald, Rob Lowe and Gary Sinise. See Preview, above (S) (880749).* *
10.45 FILM **Body of Evidence** (Uli Edel 1993 US). The network TV premiere of this very silly showcase for Madonna's erotic posing. La Ciccone plays a gold digger accused of murdering her elderly husband by the force of her sexual activity. Then she seduces her lawyer who begins to wonder about the honesty of his latest client. Also stars Willem Dafoe, Joe Mantegna and Anne Archer *(S) (45947768).* *
12.20 FILM ***Rachel River*** (*Sandy Smolan* 1987 US). An interesting dissection of small-town American life, focusing on Minnesota mother and radio journalist Pamela Reed, and those she deals with on a daily level. Originally a PBS American Playhouse production scripted by Judith Guest *(2783053).*
1.45 **Weather** *(6969966). To 1.50am.*
REGIONS. Scot: 10.45am Grandstand from Scotland. **NI:** 4.55pm Northern Ireland Results.

BBC 2

6.00 **Open University:** *The Location Problem (3877126).* 6.25 Group Theory *(3952861).* 6.50 Care in the Community *(2837519).* 7.15 Jean-*Jacques Rousseau: Retreat to Romanticism (3228519).* 7.40 A Question of Balance *(1001132).* 8.05 Holidays by the Sea *(5950403). 8.30 A Europe of the Regions (9169316).* 9.20 Patterns in the Dust and Batteries Included *(1418768).* 10.10 Powers of *the President (2940039). * 11.00 Berlin:* Unemployment and the Family *(5475132).* 11.25 Global Sea-Level *(8665294).* 11.50 Software Development: Channel for Communication *(3396395).*
12.15 **Hungarian Grand Prix.** Live coverage of the qualifying session *(S) (680381).*
1.15 FILM **One Minute to Zero** (Tay Garnett 1952US). Robert Mitchum is in plodding form in this Korean war drama. Ann Blyth is the love interest *(48123861).* *
3.00 FILM **The Hunters** (Dick Powell 1958 US) Robert Mitchum returns to Korea as an ace pilot in this propaganda mission *(47447107).* *
4.45 ***Cricket – Second Test.*** *Further live coverage of the* third day's play from Headingley. *(S) (52114590).*
6.30 **The Business.** Exploring two of the most influential *companies on the British rock scene:* the Mean Fiddler Organisation and the Tribute Group, which has organised six of the world's top TV music *extravaganzas. See Preview, above (S) (687).*
7.00 **Eisteddfod 96.** Eddie Ladd reports on the biggest cultural festival in Wales, held this year at Llandeilo, near Carmarthen. Featuring opera star Bryn Terfel in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and the winners of the poetry competitions *(S) (7045).*
7.30 **BBC Proms 1996.** (With Radio 3) Sarah Walker introduces this evening's concert by the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, broadcast live. Paul Daniel conducts the ensemble at the Royal Albert Hall in a programme of 20th-century *classics including Ameriques by Varese,* Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, and a selection of George Gershwin show tunes sung by opera star Sally Burgess *(Subsequent programmes may run late) (S) (31934045).*
9.40 **Dancing in the Street: A Rock and Roll History.** The penultimate episode of this excellent music series focuses on funk, analysing and showcasing the songs of James Brown, Sly and the Family Stone, Earth, Wind and Fire and Marvin Gaye *(S) (969590).* *
10.40 **Takin' Over the Asylum.** *Ken Stott and Katy* Murphy shine as the DJ and the neurotic in this sincerely funny drama which won a BAFTA for writer Donna Franceschild *(R) (S) (923519).* *
11.30 **Cricket – Second Test** *(S) (485749).*
12.10 **Later with Jools Holland.** Featuring Van Morrison, Tori Amos, the Charlatans, Buju Banton, Paul Brady and Maura O'Connell *(R) (S) (2908169). To 1.25am.*

ITV/London

6.00 **GMTV**
9.25 **Scratchy & Co** *(S) (62971126).*
11.30 **The Chart Show** *(S) (65132).*
12.30 ***Mad Science*** *(35861).*
1.00 **News and Weather** *(24178045).* *
1.05 **London Today** *(24177316).* *
1.10 ***Movies, Games and Videos*** *(83342010).*
1.40 **The Making of Independence Day** *(58074213).*
2.10 **Airwolf.** Action-adventure series about a hi-tech helicopter and its heroic pilot *(R) (4921233).*
3.00 **Thunder in Paradise.** Adventure series set in the steamy tropical paradise of south Florida. When Jessica is kidnapped and taken to England by a man claiming to be her real father, Spence and Bru set off in hot pursuit. *(S) (1996720).*
3.50 **RoboCop** *(S) (1428132).*
4.45 **ITN News, Sports Results, Weather** *(4448478).* *
5.05 **London Tonight, Sports Results** *(2044584).* *
5.20 **seaQuest 2032.** Futuristic follow-up to *seaQuest DSV* in which the *seaQuest* and its confused crew are discovered by Captain Oliver Hudson, a navy man whose obsesssion has been to find the giant submarine *(S) (8842381).* *
6.10 **Body Heat.** Mike Smith, *Sally Gunnell* and Jeremy Guscott host the third series of the physical test of stamina and power for three teams of one man and one woman. *The hapless victims throw themselves* around a 2 x 200m sprint relay race alongside Britain's top athletes, row across a lake, dive across scramble nets and scale an 80ft castle tower. Phew. One for serious couch potatoes *(S) (251861).* *
6.55 **You Bet!** Vanessa Feltz, Pat Sharp and Johnny Herbert bet on more unlikely challenges *(S) (741890).* *
7.55 **ITN News, Weather, Lottery Result** *(520652).* *
8.10 **The Big, Big Talent Show.** Jonathan Ross hosts the third-rate talent show *(S) (513749).*
9.00 **A Touch of Frost.** David Jason tracks a rapist as the battered detective *(R) (S) (5720).* *
11.00 ***A Drop of Digance.*** *Comedian and singer Richard* Digance hosts a party at the Bass Museum of Brewing in Burton-on-Trent *(S) (34229).* *
12.00 FILM **Indecency** (*Marisa Silver 1992 US*). Three women who work together in LA find their friendship disrupted when the ex-husband of one of them arrives in town and one of them turns up dead. Unremarkable thriller starring Jennifer Beals, James Remar, Sammi Davis-Voss, Barbara Williams *(432527).* *
1.35 **Tropical Heat.** A restaurant owner is murdered in *this private-eye drama (R) (S) (1931237).*
2.30 **American Gladiators** *(S) (5647904).*
3.20 **E! News Review** *(R) (4291527).*
4.05 **Night Shift** *(64692985).*
4.10 **God's Gift** *(R) (6077625).*
5.05 **Coach.** Howard and Shirley's marriage is put under strain when *she becomes his personal secretary.* *(S) (3787343).*
5.30 **News** *(81409). To 6.00am.*

Channel 4

6.00 **Sesame Street** *(R) (18836).*
7.00 **The Magic School Bus** *(R) (S) (43923).*
7.30 **The Ferals** *(S) (35958).*
8.00 **Gaelic Games.** *Action from the hurling semi-finals* with Galway against Wexford and favourites Limerick playing Antrim. Presented by Jimmy *Magee (49381).*
9.00 **The Morning Line.** A preview of today's top racing. *(S) (41652).*
10.00 **High Five.** Featuring *Czechoslovakia's* best climbers *(46836).*
10.30 **The Northumberland All Terrain Marathon.** A four-mile hill run over the Cheviots, starting at sea-level, but climbing up to a 1,000ft finish *(18652).*
11.00 **Trans World Sport** *(48478).*
12.00 **Rawhide** *(2951855).*
12.55 FILM **Sea of Sand** (1958) Second World War action movie set in North Africa in 1943, also known as *Desert Patrol*. With Richard Attenborough, John Gregson and Michael Craig. *(30046213).* *
2.50 **Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket.** Derek Thompson introduces a four-race card. 3.05 *Dandelion Ladies Invitation Stakes (1m);* 3.35 Enza Sweet Solera Stakes (7f); 4.10 New Zealand Handicap Stakes (7f); 4.40 South Island Maiden Stakes *(6f)*. With Lesley Graham, *Alastair Down,* Graham Goode, John McCririck and Jim McGrath. *(S) (21019403).*
5.05 **Brookside Omnibus.** Jimmy meets a face from the past while Nat and Jules finally walk up the aisle and Sammy falls in love once again *(R) (S) (2031590).* *
6.30 **The Middle Ages** *(S) (855).* *
7.00 **Channel 4 News Summary and Weather** *(923565).*
7.10 **Europe on the Road.** The second in the series reporting on current European life and thinking comes from Germany. German TV reporter Klaus Schwagrzinna presents from a medieval festival in *Ulm on the Danube (S) (834923).* *
8.00 **Vets in the Wild.** An American vet invites four young vets from India, Ethiopia, Mexico and the Philippines to come to Whipsnade Zoo and then to Africa to gain hands-on experience in animal conservation *(R) (6403).* *
9.00 **ER.** Ross and Hathaway rekindle their attraction. Who can blame them? *(R) (S) (614923).* *
9.55 **Paul Merton – the Second Series** *(R) (S) (447836).* *
10.25 FILM **Belle Epoque** (Fernando Trueba 1993 Spain). The Oscar-winning *romantic comedy* set in 1931 Spain. A young army deserter finds romance with the four daughters of an ageing artist. See *Big Picture, above (S) (55373381).*
12.30 **Judge** *(S) (37508).*
1.30 **The New Twilight Zone** *(50850).*
2.00 **Full Frontal.** Australian comics. *(9906430).*
2.35 **Squawkietalkie** *(R) (S) (1316256).* *
3.05 **Dweebs** *(S) (84109527) To 3.35am.*

ITV/Regions

ANGLIA
As London except: *12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (35861).* 1.10 **Film:** I Married Wyatt Earp *(48128316).* 2.55 Airwolf *(1420229).* 1.35am *Film: Nice Girls Don't Explode (7593140).* 3.05am **Film:** Burning Secret *(979306).* 5.00-5.30am International Touring Cars *(18898).*

TYNE TEES/YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos *(35861).* 1.10 Thunder in Paradise *(9660768).* 2.05 Cartoon *(81519687).* 2.10 **Film:** *Greyfriars Bobby (304229).* 3.50 Airwolf *(1428132).* 5.10 *Yorks:* Scoreline *(5136395).* 5.15 *Tyne:* Cartoon *(3762045).* 1.35am **Film:** *BL Stryker – Winner Takes All.* Private eye thriller starring Burt Reynolds and Ossie Davis *(273782).* 3.15am War of the Worlds *(8043966).* 4.10am *Coach (64053343).* 4.35-5.30am Murder, She Wrote *(9948633).*

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos *(35861).* 1.10 Baywatch *(7926294).* 2.00 Airwolf *(4653869).* 2.55 Warner Brothers Cartoons *(9423861).* 3.00 Film: Carry on Henry *(47530861).* 5.15 Warner Brothers Cartoons *(3762045).* 4.05am Jobfinder *(8257362).* 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye *(3575140).*

HTV
As London except: *12.30pm West: No Naked Flames (35861). Wales: Go Getters (6825687).* 12.55 *Wales:* Cartoon Time *(40166381).* 1.10 House *(6504855).* 1.45 Movies, Games and Videos *(612720).* 2.15 **Film:** The Great Land of Small *(223300).* 3.55 Baywatch *(6491774).* 5.10 *Wales:* Let's Go *(5136395).* 5.15 *West:* Cartoon Time *(3762045).* 1.35am **Film:** Nice Girls Don't Explode *(7593140).* 3.05am **Film:** Burning Secret *(979306).* 5.00-5.30am International Touring Cars *(18898).*

MERIDIAN
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and *Videos (35861).* 1.10 *Go Fishing (83342010).* 1.40 International Touring Cars *(58074213).* 2.10 Stuntmasters *(8443497).* 2.55 Airwolf *(1420229).* 1.35am **Film:** Nice Girls Don't Explode *(7593140).* 3.05am **Film:** Burning Secret *(979306).* 5.00-5.30am Freescreen *(18898).*

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos *(35861).* 1.10 James and the Giant Peach *(6504855).* 1.45 **Film:** Pirate's Island *(10344855).* 3.40 Cartoon *(3050584).* 3.50 Airwolf *(1428132).* 1.35am **Film:** Nice Girls Don't Explode *(7593140).* 3.05am **Film:** Burning Secret *(979306).* 5.00-5.30am International Touring Cars *(18898).*

S4C
As C4 except: 7.05am The Magic School Bus *(3126107).* 10.00 High Five *(46836).* 10.30 The Northumberland *(18652).* 11.00 Transworld Sport *(48478)* 12.00 The Avengers *(2951855).* 2.50pm Channel 4 Racing: From Newmarket *(21019403).* 5.05 Brookside *(2031590).* 6.30 Boy Meets World *(855).* 7.00 Newyddion Nos *(929229).* 7.15 Eisteddfod *(99619519).* 1.30-2.00am The Twilight Zone *(50850).*

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99.8MHz FM)

7.00am Clive Warren **10.00** Dave Pearce **12.30** Danny Baker **2.30** Jo Whiley **5.00** John Peel **7.00** Lovegroove Dance Party with Danny Rampling **9.00** Radio 1 Rap Show **12.00** The Radio 1 Reggae Dancehall Nite **2.00** *Essential Mix:* Mother **4.00-7.00am** Charlie Jordan

Radio 2

(88-90.2MHz FM)

6.00am Mo Dutta **8.05** Brian Matthew **10.00** Steve Wright **1.00** Talking Comedy *1.30 The "What If" Show 2.00 Judi Spiers* **4.00** Nick Barraclough **5.00** The Small Faces Story **6.00** Linda Ronstadt in Concert **7.00** Ned Sherrin's Review of Revue **7.30** A Royal Gala **9.30** David Jacobs **10.00** Sheridan Morley **12.05** Charles Nove **4.00-7.00am** Mo Dutta

Radio 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

7.00am Musical Europe.
9.00 Proms News.
9.30 Humphrey Burton's Masterworks.
12.00 Off the Record.
1.00 *News: Placido Domingo.*
3.20 Youth Orchestras of the World.
5.00 Jazz Record Requests.
5.45 Proms Documentary: A Portrait of Virgil Thomson.
6.30 The Beethoven Cello Sonatas. (3/5).
7.30 BBC Proms 1996.
9.55 Books Abroad. (3/6).
10.25 McCoy Tyner.
1.00 Through the Night.
1.01 Jazz Duo.
2.00 Loire *Philharmonic.*
3.30 Ukrainian Children's Chorus.
5.00 Sequence.
5.55-7.00am Open University.

Choice

John Peel *(left)* returns with another series of his (award-winning, as he is careful to point out) dispatches from the front line of family life. **Offspring** (6.50pm R4), begins with a push through the shell-cratered *hell that men call "teenagers'* bedrooms".

Radio 4

(92.4-94.6MHz FM, 198kHz LW)

6.00am News Briefing
6.10 Farming Today.
6.50 *Prayer for the Day*
6.55 Weather
7.00 Today.
8.58 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 *Sport on 4.*
9.30 Breakaway.
10.00 News: Fame
10.30 The Lipman Test.
11.00 (FM) News: The Eurocrats.
11.00 (LW) Test Match Special.
11.30 (FM) *From Our Own Correspondent*
12.00 (FM) Inside Money. (5/6).
12.25 (FM) On Baby Street.
12.55 (FM) Weather.
1.00 (FM) News.
1.10 (FM) In the Dock. MPs. (3/6).
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.
2.00 (FM) News: Cargoes. (1/4).
2.30 (FM) Saturday Playhouse: *The Stones of Muncaster Cathedral.* By Robert Westall.
4.00 (FM) News: What If...?
4.30 (FM) Science Now.
5.00 (FM) File on 4.
5.40 (FM) Tidal Talk from the Rock Pool. *(3/6).*
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 (FM) Weather.
5.55 (LW) Test Match Special.
6.00 (FM) Six O'Clock News.
6.25 (FM) The Mark Steel Solution.
6.50 (FM) Offspring. *See Choice, above.*
7.20 *Kaleidoscope Feature*
7.50 On These Days.
8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: *His Last Bow.* (2/8).
9.35 Classics with Kay.
9.50 Ten to Ten.
9.59 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 P Division – Code Four One. By Nick McCarty. (6/6).
11.15 A Night with... Benjamin Zephaniah.
11.45 Devil's Advocate. (6/6).
12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Story. *Old and Long Remorse* by Jude Weeks.
12.48 Shipping Forecast.
1.00-6.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

(693, 909kHz MW)

6.05am Dirty Tackle **6.30** Brian Hayes **9.05** Kershaw and Whittaker **11.05** The 21st Century and How to Survive It **11.35** If I Ruled the World **12.00** Midday Edition **12.15** Sportscall **1.05** Sport on Five **5.55** *Saturday Superleague 8.05 The Treatment* **9.05** Dallyn on Saturday **10.35** Word Up! **11.00** Night Extra **12.05** Night Talk **2.05** Up All Night **5.00-6.05am** Morning Reports

Classic FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM)

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Countdown **12.00** Gardening Forum **1.00** Alan Mann **3.00** Nick Bailey **6.00** Menuhin, Master *Musician.* **7.00** The World Opera Season.**10.00** The Classic Quiz **12.00** Andre Leon **4.00** Travel Guide **5.00-6.00am** Michael Fanstone

Virgin Radio

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM)

6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00 Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **2.00** Mark Forrest **6.00** Lynn Parsons **10.00** Robin Banks **2.00-6.00am** Howard Pearce

World Service

(198kHz LW)

1.00am Newsdesk **1.30** Letter from America **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** For and Against **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Music Review **4.00** World News **4.15** *Sports Roundup 4.30 Fourth Estate 4.45* Write On **4.55** Pop Short **5.00** Newsdesk **5.30** Short Story **5.45-6.00am** On the Move

Satellite

SKY ONE
7.00am Undun *(5012039).* **12.00** WWF *(72316).* **1.00** The Hit Mix *(85836).* **2.00** Hercules: The Legendary Journeys *(56923).* **3.00** Hawkeye *(88403).* **4.00** Kung Fu, the Legend Continues *(94010).* **5.00** The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles *(4590).* **6.00** WWF *(98300).* **7.00** Hercules: The Legendary Journeys *(39671).* **8.00** Unsolved Mysteries *(28519).* **9.00** Cops I *(90294).* **9.30** Cops II *(73045).* **10.00** Stand and Deliver *(60039).* **10.30** Revelations *(42687).* **11.00** The Movie Show *(12869).* **11.30** Forever Knight *(82107).* *12.30 Napoleon and Josephine: A* Love Story *(80614).* **1.30** Rachel Gunn, RN *(42966).* **2.00-6.00am** Hit Mix Long Play *(8701492).*

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Dear Heart (1964) *(50584).* **8.00** The Helicopter Spies (1967) *(43403).* **10.00** Rugged Gold (1993) *(91497).* **12.00** Princess Caraboo (1994) *(60126).* **2.00** She Led Two *Lives (1995) (595039).* **3.50** *Thunderball* (1965) *(10120355).* **6.00** Princess Caraboo (1994) *(12958).* **8.00** Addams Family Values *(1993) (17403).* **10.00** *Death Machine* (1994) *(672519).* **11.55** Night Eyes 3 (1993) *(608768).* **1.10** Where the Rivers Flow North (1993) *(870459).* **3.00** House 3 (1989) *(28546).* **4.30-6.00am** She Led Two Lives (1995) *(11343).*

MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Belle Starr (1941) *(58126).* **8.00** Travels of Marco Polo (1993) *(7100652).* *8.50 Red Planet (1993) (2867377).* **10.00** It's Only Money (1962) *(99039).* **12.00** Tekwar: Teklords (1994) *(68768).* **2.00** Two Much Trouble (1994) *(27836).* **4.00** Three Ninjas Kick Back (1994) *(1836).* **6.00** Bigfoot: The Unforgettable Encounter (1994) *(30300).* **8.00** Malice (1993) *(15045).* **10.00** Blink (1993) *(841107).* **11.50** The Programme (1993) *(799045).* **1.45** Stalingrad (1994) *(18009324).* **4.05-6.00am** Diamond Skulls (1989) *(610904).*

SKY MOVIES GOLD
12.00noon The Long Duel (1967) (81768). **2.00** Easter Parade (1948) *(80756).* **4.00** Canyon Passage (1946) *(2126).* **6.00** The *Day the Earth Stood Still (1951) (7113720).* **7.20** Cry Freedom (1987) *(75959590).* **10.00** Sudden Impact (1983) *(73793768).* **12.05** Crazy Mama (1975) *(7970701).* **1.30** Charley Varrick (1973) *(658459)* **3.20-5.00am** Easter Parade (1948) *(992411).*

UK GOLD
7.00am Give Us a Clue *(2409107).* **7.30** *Going for Gold (1196768).* **7.50** The Sullivans *(65293855).* **10.00** Bergerac *(2417126).* **11.00** Lytton's Diary *(2593590).* **12.00** Neighbours *(48043565).* **2.15** Ring of Bright Water (1969) *(70674126).* **4.30** Spring and Autumn *(65633641).* **5.00** Robin's Nest *(1266774).* **5.35** Get Some In! *(1364381).* **6.15** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum *(6371519).* **6.45** Sorry! *(1352519).* **7.20** Bread *(9931720).* **8.00** Colditz *(99436107).* **9.05** Tenko *(27845497).* **10.10** Bottom *(2536519).* **10.50** The Detectives *(8565671).* **11.25** Film: Desperately Seeking Susan (1985) *(2567942).* **1.25-7.00am** Shopping *(7174701).*

SKY SPORTS
7.00am World Sports *(12045).* **7.30** WWF *(80010).* **8.30** Racing *(26720).* **9.00** Finish *Line (40300). 9.30 Baseball (80107).* **10.30** Fishomania III *(1293836).* **4.00** Saturday Results *(94294).* **5.30** Super League *(913749).* **8.00** Cricket *(90478).* **9.30** Speedway *(34497).* **11.30** World Rugby *(21107).* **1.00** Super League *(99898).* **3.00-4.00am** Baseball *(12508).*

SKY SPORTS 2
7.00am Soccer *(9286039).* **11.00** In-Line *Skating (2730774).* **12.00** Golf *(5607749).* **2.00** World Wide Rugby *(8799120).* **4.00** Golf USA *(3870836).* **11.00-1.00am** Golf: *Austrian Open (82458836).*

LIVE TV
6.00am Revelations **6.30** Looking for Love **7.00** Spanish Archer **7.30** Mind & Body **8.00** The Why Files **8.30** Video Box **9.00** Fate & Fortune **9.30** The Fashion Show **10.00** Revelations **10.30** Looking for Love **11.00** Mind & Body **11.30** Spanish Archer **12.00** Canary Wharf **1.30** Fate & Fortune **2.00** The Fashion Show **2.30** Mind and Body **3.00** Chequered Flag **3.30** Pin Money **4.00** Eric's Monster Sport Show **5.30** Looking for Love **6.00** *The Fashion Show* **6.30** Eric's Monster Sports Show **7.00** Pin Money **7.30** Revelations **8.00** The Why Files **8.30** Spanish Archer **9.00** Lunchbox Volleyball **9.03** Fate & Fortune **9.30** Looking for Love **10.00** Topless Darts **10.03** Eric's Monster Sports Show **10.30** Stand Up **11.00** Topless Darts **11.03** Fate & Fortune **11.30** The Sex Show **12.00** Lunchbox Volleyball **12.03** Revelations **12.30** Kiss TV **1.30-6.00am** *Night-Time Programmes*

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

Losses could top £17m as court upholds illegal lottery ruling

Titan investors dealt new blow

Minford: Titan US adviser

By Robert Miller

THOUSANDS of investors who joined a successor to the Titan Business Club, a controversial international money-circulation scheme, saw hopes of recovering their investment fade yesterday when a High Court judge upheld earlier rulings that Titan is an unlawful lottery. Total losses for Titan members could now top £17 million.

As many as 12,000 investors paid between £2,500 and £3,000 each to join the Titan Business Club, which was declared an illegal lottery by the Court of Appeal last month. The new recruits were expected to recoup their money by persuading four or five other people to join up at "revivalist-style" meetings held around the country.

In his Court of Appeal judgment, Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, warned about "clones" of Titan being created. Subsequently a replacement scheme, Titan International LLC, an American flexible limited liability company registered in the State of Wyoming, was launched, together with another US company, Titan International Incorporated, registered in Connecticut.

Patrick Minford, one of Britain's most respected economists and a member of the inner circle of six "wise men" who advise Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, was retained as a special adviser to the American version of Titan.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, immediately applied to the courts to have the new scheme closed down. A series of court injunctions were issued, similar to those imposed on Titan 1, the original business club scheme.

These injunctions are still in force, pending a full hearing on the Department of Trade and Industry's application for winding-up of the various schemes, referred to in court yesterday as Titan 1 and Titan 2. These forbid Titan from holding recruitment meetings or taking money from investors or sending money out of the country. It is believed that more than £11 million raised by the Titan schemes was sent abroad before the injunctions were imposed.

Mr Justice Blackburne yesterday granted an application by the DTI to assign a provisional liquidator to Titan International LLC, and ordered that the Official Receiver be appointed "to protect and preserve the assets and financial records of the company until the hearing of the winding-up petition". Titan was given leave to appeal against the ruling by the judge, who dismissed the DTI's application to have Titan International Inc wound-up. He did, however, agree to keep the injunctions in place.

The court ruling yesterday marks the latest stage in a long-running battle by the DTI to have Titan closed down completely on the grounds that investors will inevitably lose their money when the flow of new members dries up. Titan's lawyers argued that there is no reason why it should collapse because 800,000 people reach the age of 18 each year and could become members.

Mr Justice Blackburne told a courtroom packed with Titan supporters that he agreed with the Court of Appeal ruling that the scheme was "inherently objectionable". He added: "In my view, on the evidence as it stands, Titan 2 is no different from Titan 1."

Peter Sealey, who described himself as a corporate finance adviser to Titan, said after yesterday's ruling that the scheme had so far spent £1.5 million on legal and other fees. "The fight continues. If we were just going to chuck it in I don't think we'd have spent all that money in the first place," he added.

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Will investors be the losers in the Euro trust tussle?

Syndicate at Lloyd's to limit names' liability

By Oliver August

THE first steps were taken yesterday to introduce the concept of limited liability to names at Lloyd's of London, many of whom have lost millions of pounds through their unlimited liability arrangements in recent years.

The new system developed by Hardy Underwriting will allow Lloyd's names to keep their funds in the insurance market without the risk of bankruptcy. Other similar schemes are likely to follow. Rules allowing the formation of a limited liability company were only passed by Lloyd's two weeks ago.

Peter Hardy, who runs Syndicate 382, announced that it was creating a separate company, to be listed eventually on the Alternative Investment Market, into which individual names could switch their Lloyd's funds. Names who convert funds from Mr Hardy's syndicate to the Hardy Underwriting Group, the new corporate vehicle, will become shareholders in the group. They will receive dividends and will also profit from increases in the share price. And, most importantly, they will be safe from bankruptcy because of HUG's limited liability status.

However, they will have to pay slightly more to be a name. The compulsory deposit for every pound insured has risen from 30p to 50p, but where before names could lose their 30p more than once, under limited liability only the initial 50p is at stake.

The rules for names who want to convert funds to limited liability were announced on July 29 and follow the earlier admission of limited liability companies not connected to names.

The company is scheduled to be listed on AIM later this year and will thereby also create an opportunity for other investors to get involved at Lloyd's.

Nevertheless, the concept of unlimited liability will not disappear from Lloyd's. Individuals who can afford to lose large sums of money will continue to find present arrangements beneficial. The higher risks, they hope, will create better returns.

The conversion to limited liability will not only affect those participating in the market, but is also likely to change the nature of Lloyd's.

Mr Hardy hopes that, by reducing the risk of investing in Lloyd's, many more small investors can be attracted.

☐ Lloyd's made a profit of £1 billion in the 1994 accounting year, Indemnity Insurance Services forecast yesterday. This represents a return of 9.87 per cent on capacity.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3810.7	(-0.7)
Yield	4.11%	
FT-SE A All share	1884.86	(+0.43)
Nikkei	20551.05	(-180.26)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5709.42	(-4.07)*
S&P Composite	663.41	(+0.82)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/16%*	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	100 11/32*	89 21/32)
Yield	6.70%*	(6.79%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5 25/32%	(5 3/4%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	107 25/32	(107 15/16)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5493*	(1.5495)
London:		
$	1.5495	(1.5496)
DM	2.2907	(2.3004)
FFr	7.8311	(7.8401)
SFr	1.8653	(1.8765)
Yen	167.53	(167.62)
£ Index	84.6	(84.8)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4785*	(1.4845)
FFr	5.0560*	(5.0825)
SFr	1.2045*	(1.2103)
Yen	108.15*	(108.28)
$ Index	96.1	(96.2)

Tokyo close Yen 108.15

NORTH SEA OIL

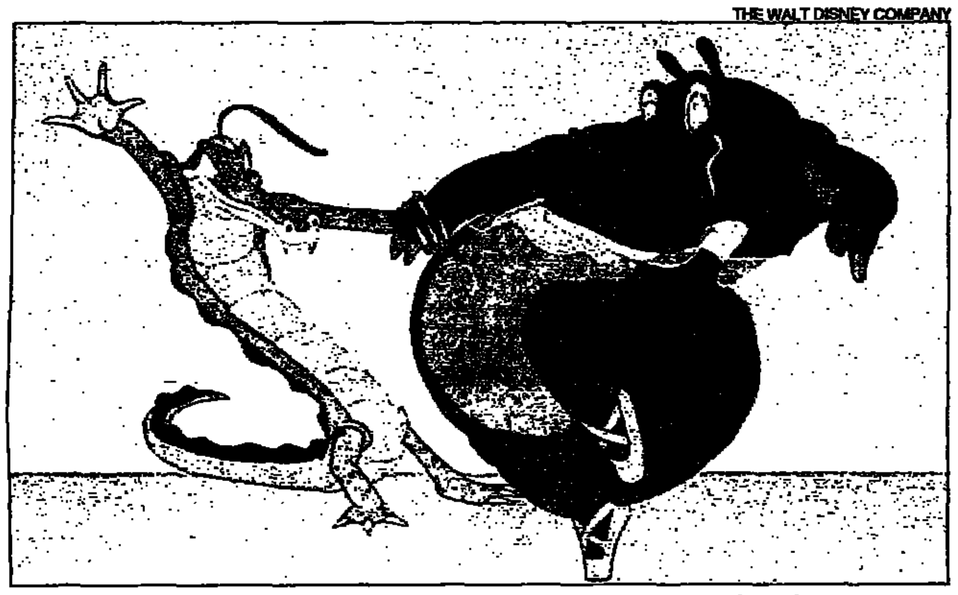
Brent 15-day (Oct)	$19.50	($19.60)

GOLD

London close	$387.65	($388.15)

* denotes midday trading price

THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY



A still from the Disney *Fantasia*, filmed in 1939 and released on video five years ago

Boosey scores a win in battle of the Disney 'Fantasia' video

By Alasdair Murray

BOOSEY & Hawkes, the music company, claimed victory yesterday in its $200 million battle with Walt Disney over the use of Igor Stravinsky's *Rites of Spring* in the video version of *Fantasia*.

A US court found that potentially Disney had breached copyright laws across the world as the original agreement to use Stravinsky's ballet music, struck with the composer in 1939, only covered the film release.

Disney was challenged by Boosey, which bought the rights to Stravinsky's works in 1947, after the film company launched the video in 1991. It has sold around 14 million copies worldwide.

Shares in the company jumped 48p, to a record high of 778p, after the ruling, although Tony Fell, managing director of Boosey's publishing division, emphasised that the case could still go to appeal. The ruling does not affect sales of the video in the United States.

The *Rites of Spring* prompted a riot when it was premiered in Paris in 1913, the discordant nature of the piece upsetting the audience. Walt Disney decided that a sanitised version would fit a sequence in *Fantasia* that showed the decline and fall of the dinosaur kingdom.

But Stravinsky, who died in 1971, was not impressed with the Disney treatment, complaining that the film studio had massacred the piece with its editing, and describing the performance by the Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Stokowski, as "execrable".

Richard Holland, chief executive of Boosey & Hawkes, which holds Stravinsky rights

Redundancy call at Eurostar

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

ALL 1,500 staff of Eurostar, the Channel Tunnel train operator, have been asked to consider voluntary redundancy.

Letters ask for a response by the end of the month, at which time the company will detail its requirements for staff reductions. A spokesman for Eurostar Passenger Services said staffing levels for frontline operations handling the services and the public were likely to be maintained while trimming would concentrate on backroom and administrative roles. Compulsory redundancies are not expected.

Eurostar, which was recently taken over by London & Continental, the consortium that includes the Virgin group, recorded an operating loss of £900 million last year.

Debut 'delight' for Somerfield

By Clare Stewart

SOMERFIELD, the supermarket group, made its long-awaited debut on the stock market yesterday, and reached a 17½p premium to its 145p issue price in early trading.

Nearly four million shares changed hands in the first hour, but by the end of the day the shares closed at 159p. This is a penny below the 160p level at which Somerfield was to have been floated before its advisers thought it necessary to cut the price further to ensure the offer's success.

A spokesperson for Somerfield said the group was "delighted that the float had got off successfully". But some City followers were disappointed that the shares did not reach an expected premium of 20p on the first day.

There was also renewed criticism of how the float was handled by Kleinwort Benson, advisers, with the suggestion that the group was sold off too cheaply. The lower value put on Somerfield means that a number of creditors of Isosceles, the company that owned Somerfield before the flotation, will receive less than they had originally expected.

"Kleinwort's did not so much get the offer away, they gave it away," commented one analyst. The cost of the troublesome flotation is put at between £30 million and £40 million including bonus payments to Somerfield directors. David Simons, chief executive, will receive £3 million. He is investing £1.6 million in Somerfield.

Around 16 million of the 300 million shares on offer were bought by retail investors, with the balance going to the institutions.

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Placing of shares in WS Atkins plc

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• SHARE VALUATION • TAX PLANNING •
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Housing market needs period of interest rate stability

What are the implications for the housing market if interest rates start to rise? We heard this week that if the Government's inflation target of 2.5 per cent is to be met, interest rates may need to be increased.

Abbey National fully supports the need for low inflation and taking action at an early stage to ensure that low inflation continues. The current state of the housing market does, however, need to be kept in perspective.

Over the past few months, Abbey National has seen an increase in transactions in the housing market — above and beyond the normal peaks you would expect during the spring buying season.

Between April and June housing transactions were up 10 per cent on the same period last year. *For the six months to June 1996* the value of mortgage loan approvals is also up by 18 per cent — and mortgage approvals *tend* to be a better forward indicator of the year to come than the transaction numbers, which are backward looking.

Turnover — that is the value of all transactions taking place in the United Kingdom residential housing market — was £15 billion in 1995. It was more than £40 billion in 1988 and has averaged about £25 billion in today's terms for many years.

Looking at transactions, 2.1 million houses changed hands in the UK in 1988; last year it was 1.2 million. An average figure for previous years has been 1.5 million transactions.

In 1996, the housing market *might* see turnover move up to £16.5 billion, with perhaps 1.3 *million transactions* taking place. Hardly a boom!

House-price growth this year might be 5 per cent and it might be the *same again next* year. There will be areas where prices may increase by more and others by less.

There *is no doubt that* the sure and steady recovery we are seeing in the housing market helps to fuel a return to consumer confidence and brings back a "feel-good" factor. The UK is a nation of homeowners, with two out of three people owning their own home. We need to ensure that this high level of home ownership is maintained — not least because homeowners make fewer demands on the state, at a time when the state simply cannot afford to continue to *meet* all demands made of it.

EXECUTIVE VOICE

Peter Birch

The other area of the housing market that is now normalising is the remortgage market. For some years now, lenders have been chasing each other's customers, offering high levels of cashbacks and discounts. Remortgage activity — where homeowners change lenders but do not move home — will not contribute towards a recovery in the housing market.

Some commentators also argue that smaller lenders could be storing up trouble for the future in terms of poor credit quality. Abbey National, like other lenders, moved recently to cut down on cashbacks available to those customers simply remortgaging, rather than moving home. *This* will enable us to move back to a fairer price for all borrowers, with those who are moving home receiving a better deal than those who are simply remortgaging.

All the fundamentals necessary for a real recovery in the housing market are now in place. Mortgage rates are already at a 30-year low. Housing is more affordable than for many years. To give just one example, someone buying an average semi-detached in the Midlands in May 1992 would have been making a monthly mortgage *payment* of £628 per month. To buy the same property in the first quarter of 1996 — with mortgage rates now lower by almost a full 4 per cent — *that same customer* would be paying only £457 per month, a monthly saving of £171.

The housing market is now *stable for the first time in seven* years and negative equity is declining as prices start to rise gently. There is a little more confidence in the economy. We should encourage this.

We do need to see the housing market recover — this is not just special pleading by Abbey National. Confidence in the housing market brings with it consumer confidence in many other areas of the economy. Higher house price increases — of perhaps 15 per cent to 20 per cent — might lead to a housing market value of close to £20 billion, and a more normal transaction level of 1.5 million house moves a year. This would still be far lower than the £25 billion that prevailed in the years from 1986 to 1991 — before the housing market had entered the boom and bust phase.

But we are not there yet. We need a period of interest rate stability and a return to confidence, translating into a better balance between supply and demand. Chancellors and Bank of England governors should not panic! Enjoy the summer and autumn at least!

☐ *The author is chief executive of Abbey National, which earlier this week completed its takeover of National & Provincial*

Bula ousts Russian directors

By Eileen McCabe

SHAREHOLDERS of Bula Resources, the Irish oil explorer, voted to oust its two Russian directors at yesterday's AGM in Dublin.

Alexander Marichev and Patyana Kirilova of Russian Corporation joined the Bula board in 1994 after the company paid Russian Corporation Ir£3.5 million for an option to buy a 51 per cent stake in Aki-Otyr, which owns *licences to four Siberian* oilfields.

Questions were then raised about the Russian Corporation's *title to the licences*. The matter was partially resolved last month, with Bula agreeing to pay RC a further £Ir1.4 million over the next 18 months.

Bula is to receive the proceeds of the sale of 71.9 million shares, issued as part of the original deal. Bula also gained control of Roskara, the holding company, which it believes owns 51 per cent of the licences.

Details of the agreement are to be put to an extraordinary general meeting within the next few months.

Referring to the company's new exploration projects in Libya, Jim Stanley, chairman, said he was confident they were not large enough to attract US sanctions.

Unilever hit by extra £7m beef write-off

By George Sivell

UNILEVER, *the* Anglo-Dutch consumer products group that owns the Birds Eye and Walls brands, suffered a further write-off of £7 million in the second quarter of the year because of "mad cow" disease.

This adds to the £14 million write-off made to cover the cost of the destruction of beef stocks in the first quarter. "*Hopefully, the £21 million is* it," said Unilever yesterday. "We thought we had covered all the affected stocks with the first-quarter charge, but there were more stocks than we thought that had to be recalled from the trade.

"Sales of beef burgers are still difficult but have improved. Fortunately, sales of *white meat, fish and poultry* have risen to compensate."

Unilever yesterday reported a 6 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £617 million for the second quarter, but Sir Michael Perry, chairman, expects the full-year figure to be up on last year's £2.32 billion. Behind the fall lay a £60 million charge for reorganisation at Helene Curtis and a £48 million charge for restructuring existing operations and to cover the cost of several minor disposals.

For the half year, Unilever pre-tax profits are ahead 1 per cent, to £1.13 billion, although earnings per share are 3 per cent down, at 36.5p. Unilever *estimates that if exceptional* charges are stripped out, then operating profits are up 13 per cent on the half year. The half-year *dividend will* be announced in November and paid in December. The final dividend is announced in February and paid in May.

Seasonal fluctuations and acquisitions have resulted in debts at Unilever rising from 24 per cent in December to 35 per cent at the end of the half year.

The company says that in *Europe overall sales* were maintained in the face of weaker demand in certain key markets. Conditions were more favourable in North America, where businesses responded well. In the emerging markets, Unilever managed to keep the growth in sales above the level of growth in the general economy.

Tempus, page 26

Sir Michael Perry expects improved full-year results

BBC sites up for sale

THE BBC took the first step in privatising its transmission system yesterday, when Lehman Brothers International, the BBC's adviser, issued sales documents to potential purchasers (Eric Reguly writes). The sale of the system is expected to be completed by the end of the year and could raise several hundred million pounds. The system has a book value of £210 million, but a bidding war could take the price much higher.

The network consists of 500 transmitters for the BBC's home service, and four transmission *sites dedicated to the* BBC's World Service.

International CableTel, the US-controlled cable company that recently bought NTL, the former transmission service of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, has said that it is a potential bidder.

Panel chief admits PFI failings

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

ALASTAIR ROSS GOOBEY, chairman of the Private Finance Panel, yesterday conceded that the Private Finance Initiative — which pumps private capital into public-sector projects — has been "too cumbersome, too bureaucratic and too expensive for the private sector".

However, responding to a highly critical report by the *Adam Smith Institute*, Mr Ross Goobey defended some of the performance of the PFI, saying that seven government departments had agreed specific delivery programmes of signed contracts. That, he said, countered the criticism from the institute that several projects should be given a deadline of the next financial year to be signed off.

The institute said that the PFI had "fallen far short of expectations", that there had *been fewer projects* than expected and that those instigated had taken longer than planned to conclude. It said *that some contractors had* begun to pull out of PFI schemes and that some had said that they would not bid for further work. The report said: "Failure of the PFI would be a political failure. It would indicate that the Government could not make its own policy work — a policy rooted deep in its belief in the private sector."

Mr Ross Goobey said that he would report regularly to the Prime Minister on progress of the plans. He said that members of the Private Finance Panel would shadow government departments to act as "project minders", as the institute had suggested.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Prosecutors search Thyssen head office

BERLIN prosecutors yesterday searched the headquarters of Thyssen, the German steel group, *whose chairman*, Dieter Vogel, was earlier released on bail after being held in a fraud investigation, Duesseldorf police said. Some Thyssen offices were sealed, to be searched in coming weeks, Thyssen said.

Investigators weeks ago removed *material* concerning suspected fraud. Thyssen executives are suspected of having caused DM70 million in damages to the Treuhand privatisation agency in connection with the acquisition of the east German metals company Metallurgiehandel, prosecutors said.

CIA doubles profits

CIA GROUP, Europe's second-largest independent media buyer, reported pre-tax profits of £3.4 million in the half year *to June 30, a 103 per cent increase on the same period last year.* The record results were thanks to several new clients, such as Unilever, Shell and Wrangler, and a Spanish acquisition in 1995. CIA said there are more growth opportunities this year but the "improvement should not be taken as *indicative* for the full year". There is an interim dividend of 0.58p, up 8 per cent.

Higher losses at Bell

BELL CABLEMEDIA, the cable company that is expected to bid this month for Videotron, yesterday reported a net loss of £46.3 million in the half year to June 30, against a loss of £4.8 million a year ago. Turnover almost doubled to £33.3 million. The company, the industry's third largest, *said the deeper loss was due to several one-off gains* last year, including a £10 million foreign-exchange gain, and increased depreciation and financing costs this year.

Tobasgo to join AIM

TOBASGO, the brochure publisher, is coming to the Alternative Investment Market via the placing of its holding company, London & Edinburgh. The group plans to raise £1.25 million by an institutional placing of 13.9 million shares at 10p each, giving *it a capitalisation of £3.05 million. Tobasgo, L&E's sole* subsidiary, made pre-tax profits of £45,000 in the six months to June 30. It has forecast year-end pre-tax profits of £400,000 (£51,800 loss). Shares are due to start trading on Friday.

Bass-Domecq deal delay

CONFIRMATION of Bass's £200 million purchase of Allied Domecq's 50 per cent stake in Carlsberg-Tetley, the brewer, was delayed yet again yesterday as the parties struggled to *iron out last-minute details. The City is now expecting* an announcement on Tuesday.

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Greece Dr	383	358
Hong Kong $	12.65	11.65
Iceland	113	93
Ireland Pt	1.01	0.93
Israel Shk	5.27	4.82
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Malta	0.596	0.541
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Turkey Lira	132770	124770
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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: HARRY HANDELSMAN

Developer cherishing lofty artistic designs

Jason Nissé meets the driving force behind Manhattan Loft Corporation, who is set on being part of London's cultural restoration

Monday
Tuesday
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Friday

ONE ONLY has to look around Harry Handelsman's office to see his affinity with the artistic community. The founder of the Manhattan Loft Corporation, which has led the current fashion for converting disused inner-city office buildings into attractive apartments, believes that he is at the heart of a movement to regenerate London and bring it back to its place as one of the world's leading cultural centres.

He is a patron of the arts, sponsoring exhibitions of young artists at unusual venues, such as the Lloyd's of London building or disused warehouses. He collects art and his work environment is littered with contemporary work.

On one wall is one of Damien Hirst's spots paintings, on another an abstract by Callum Innes, the Turner Prize-shortlisted painter, and on a third two giant photographs by the Irish artist Willie Doherty. On the floor, next to an architect's model of Manhattan's new joint venture development at West India Dock, next to Canary Wharf, is what looks like a Perspex box.

"It's a piece of fridge art by an artist called Marcus Taylor," Handelsman explains, almost apologetically. "Most visitors don't notice it."

In less than four years Manhattan has grown from a small group building just 25 units in a disused office block in a rundown area north of the City to one of the best-known and most influential developers in London. It is at the top of most property agents' lists when they are offering office blocks to be turned into flats, and has a hand in three of the most audacious and prominent developments in the capital — the Bankside building just along the river from the National Theatre, the New River Head redevelopment of Thames Water's old headquarters and the giant West India project in Docklands.

The latter two are joint ventures, and Handelsman is conscious that, with a staff of just 19, Manhattan does not want to take on too much. With West India, there was a battle for the site, which was neatly sidestepped when the three main contenders joined forces. At New River Head, which is next door to the Sadler's Wells Theatre in Islington, Manhattan is moving into a new area in partnership with Berkeley Homes, delivering completed flats rather than the part-built shells that are most usual in its loft developments.

Handelsman admits to falling in love with the building. "It has one of the best entrance halls in London, the old rates room where people came to pay their water rates. And it is surrounded by gardens — one rose garden, which already exists, and two others which we will be cultivating."

The Bankside is a different matter, with Manhattan taking on a building most people thought was a white elephant. The development has already generated a great deal of excitement, not least because Handelsman is planning to build a flat for himself on the roof of the building. A case of *Le patron habite ici*.

"It is a very prime location because of its closeness to the City and the West End and has the possibility of the Tate Gallery moving down there, as well as the Globe Theatre," he enthuses. "I love the idea of regenerating an area which is a little extinct. If people see the development, and see it as a success, then others will buy up sites."

Handelsman is a short, neat man with a casual manner that makes him seem younger than his 46 years. Born in Germany, the son of a financier, he was brought up in Belgium and France before moving to Canada, where he started in property development. His connection with the London market came almost by chance. Having worked on developing flats and houses in the US and Canada, he invested in a series of developments in the UK in the 1980s. When the recession hit, he was forced to come to London to sort out the businesses and decided to stay.

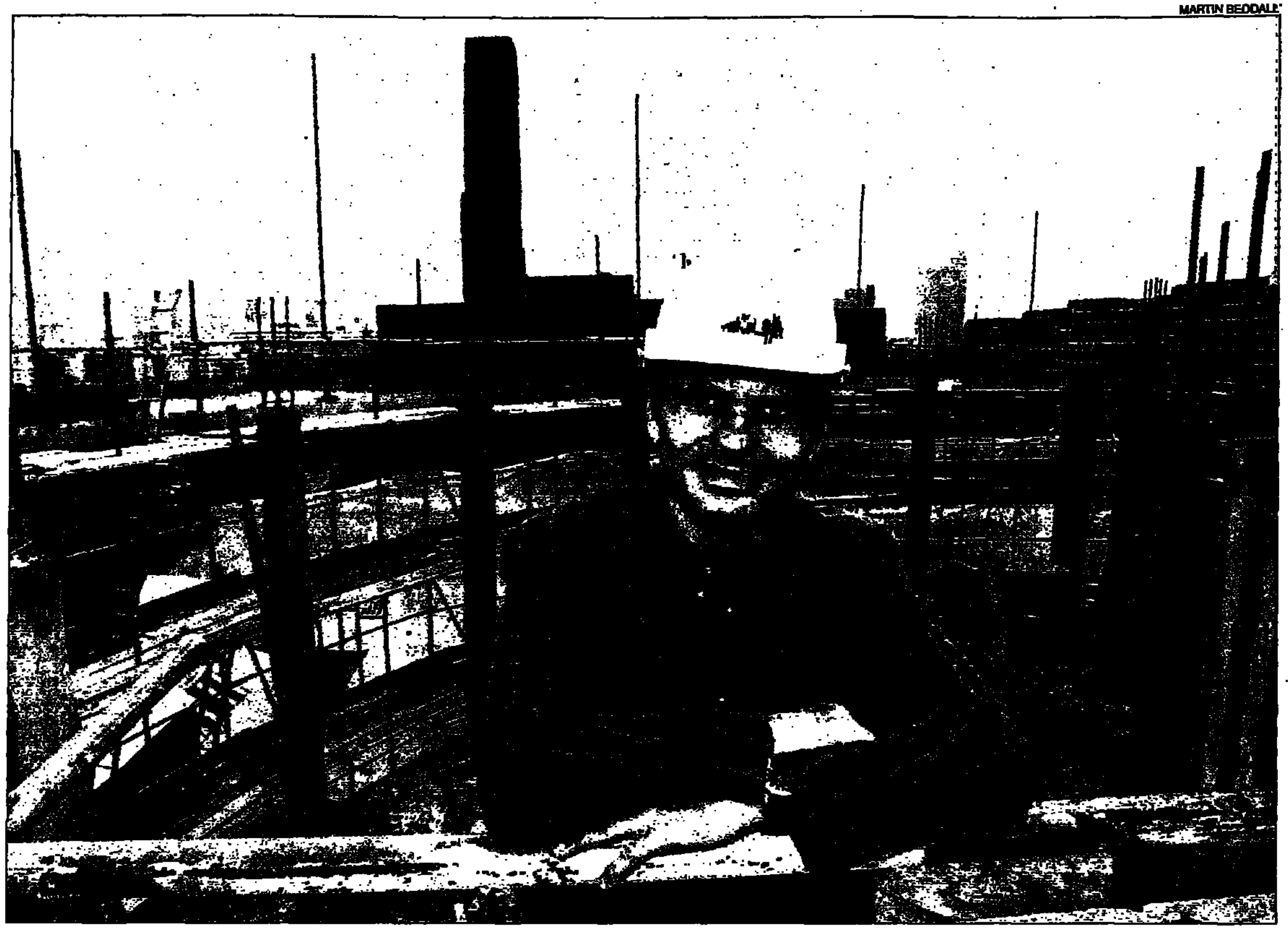
Seeing the number of commercial projects that had been shelved in London, he thought there might be an opportunity to turn some of the derelict offices into loft apartments. "Londoners, I felt, were receptive to loft living," Handelsman says. "They had been introduced to it in films like *Ghost*, *Philadelphia* and the like. We could offer potential purchasers a lot of choice. They can have 1,000 sq ft or 2,000 sq ft, fitted out or a shell, one-bed, two-bed or a studio. They can make a very modern apartment or something more traditional. What makes loft living quite exciting to us and people who have them is that no two apartments are the same."

I love the idea of regenerating an area which is a little extinct

All that said, Manhattan was lucky with its first development in Clerkenwell, sandwiched between the City and Islington. Handelsman says he was attracted to the office building because of its beautiful gable windows, but the price was also right. Manhattan was able to buy the site for just £475,000. The bank that repossessed the building valued the property at £3 million. Its second piece of luck was finding that Tanita Tikaram, the pop singer, wanted to buy one of the flats. Magically her name was leaked to the press and the site became famous overnight.

"Tanita came quite early," Handelsman remembers. "She knew a lot of people in New York and saw this was like the environments they lived in. She bought two units and then a third one, ending up with a loft of 4,000 sq ft and ceilings 14 ft high."

But she never ended up living in the flat that she created. By the time it was finished, she had decided to move to New York. Two buyers have stepped in, one buying two thirds of the apartment, the other the remainder. But Manhattan's reputation for being almost a subset of the artistic community was assured.


MARTIN BEDDALL

Harry Handelsman has high ideals: "When we are choosing a location, the primary consideration is would we be comfortable living in that location"

Since then it has worked only at the higher end of the market. Its developments have been in areas like Clerkenwell, Soho and Fitzrovia, which are not the urban wastelands usually associated with loft developments, but have often been overlooked as residential areas. When a developer was being sought to build flats next to Sir Terence Conran's giant Mezzo restaurant in Soho's Wardour Street, Manhattan was the obvious choice.

However, attempts to repeat the formula in Manchester proved unsuccessful, with Manhattan failing to secure a prime site in Sackville Street, which is now being developed by another firm. Handelsman says that Manhattan will be sticking to London for the time being.

Handelsman believes in areas that already have some life to them, with restaurants, theatres and shops near by. He also believes in spending heavily on the building, hiring leading architects, such as Piers Gough, and selling the flats for top dollar. Buyers are offered the use of an in-house architect service — which boasts "two-and-a-half" designers at present. "When we are choosing a location, the primary consideration is would we be comfortable living in that location," says Handelsman. "Instead of buying cheap and building cheap, we can spend a bit of money building quality."

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Much of his time is spent visiting sites, either ones that Manhattan is developing or ones that it plans to buy. He works closely with his 34-year-old business partner, John Hitchcox, who is largely in charge of the nitty-gritty of running the company. The business employs architects, surveyors, administrators and a three-strong sales force. Manhattan prefers to sell flats directly, avoiding estate agents. "It is not that we dislike estate agents, we just feel that our people understand the product better and can give a better service."

One of Handelsman's tasks is to be visible in the art world, so maintaining the fashionability and exclusiveness of the company. This is hardly a chore, because it is a world he loves, believing that many British companies do not involve themselves enough in the artistic community.

Handelsman believes he is at the heart of a movement that is transforming London. He argues that, in the past four years, the city has undergone a transformation so that it is now on the verge of becoming Europe's leading cultural centre. He argues that the money coming from the National Lottery is starting to fund the sort of cultural projects that the French build in Paris but London has missed out on because the Government has never wanted to spend the money.

"What has happened with London is that through restaurants, art, culture it has become one of the most fashionable places to be in the world," Handelsman argues. "If a recession was what was needed to create an upsurge, then we are benefiting from that."

If it were not for the collapse of the property market at the end of the 1980s, there would be no Manhattan Loft Corporation. For Harry Handelsman that particular cloud had an extremely silver lining.

HIDDEN ASSETS

The antiques that helped to carve out a furniture empire

Conal Gregory takes the chair for an historical tour of Parker Knoll

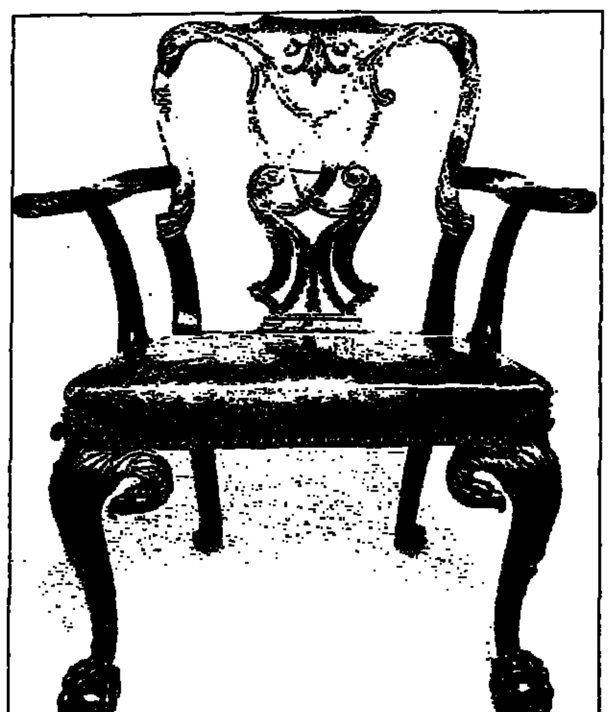
Until August 27, visitors to Phillips, the New Bond Street auctioneer celebrating its bicentenary, will be able to see many of the chairs that made Parker Knoll famous for fine furniture. The collection of more than 350 chairs is usually privately housed in Somerset with examples also kept in Bath and at Aston Hall, Birmingham.

Frederick Parker and his sons acquired the chairs between 1908 and 1930 as models for reproduction, to help customers to decide on the style they wanted and to encourage excellence among the staff through the handling of them. Many of the chairs were either broken or in a poor state when purchased, while some were constructed in the correct style for the period or restored from an important fragment. Parker, the son of a master cabinet-maker, established a furniture business in 1871 and moved the firm to High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, in 1901. Until 1930, they also traded in antiques, ceramics, pictures and Oriental rugs.

The demand for high quality reproduction furniture made Parker realise that to train his craftsmen to the highest standards, they needed to be shown examples of period chairs. The order books show 80 Chippendale-style chairs in 1898 for the dining room of the *Ophir*, the P&O liner that became the Royal Yacht for the first royal tour of the Dominions. Later, they were to supply more than 200 Hepplewhite-style chairs for the second-class dining salon of *Aquitania*, the Cunard liner. During the 1930s, Parker's made cabinet and upholstery work for Sir Edwin Lutyens's Viceroy's House in New Delhi and the hand-carved throne of Emperor Haile Selassie of Abyssinia. Further illustrious commissions were to follow, including the small Farthingale-style chairs for King George VI's Coronation in 1937. They were covered in pale-blue velvet and decorated with the royal monogram.

Frederick Parker died in 1927. Four years later, the company developed a new form of spring upholstery, registered in Germany by Willi Knoll, and agreed to make 200 chairs a month, labelled Parker Knoll.

Eight years ago, the company changed its name to Cornwell Parker to signify to investors that it manufactures more than fine upholstered chairs and settees. The range now includes other furniture and fabrics.


George II mahogany open armchair, circa 1745-50

Today two of the founder's great grandchildren are members of the board: Martin Jourdan is chairman and Tom Jourdan is operations director.

The range at Phillips allows the visitor to see the development of English chairmaking over 200 years and notes how opinions have changed over authenticity. A walnut high-back chair in the manner of Daniel Marot was previously thought to have been a period piece from around 1700. It was actually constructed by Parker in 1910, although the splat and top rail are probably original.

Where known, the prices paid and dates of purchase are given. The earliest examples date from 1675-80: two are oak side chairs (one of which cost ten shillings in 1914), a walnut example with an original back (£8 17s 6d in 1930) and two fine Charles II chairs — one elm carved with leaves and rosettes (£9 in 1919). For lovers of fine carving, a William and Mary painted beech high-back side chair, circa 1690-1700 is a delight (£25 in 1914).

If you are curious to see the difference between original and reproduction, the collection is entirely honest. It notes that a William III walnut high back from around 1700 has had both its right back leg and back seat rail replaced, as well as being recaned. Missing parts are noted, too, such as the ivory and gilt decoration, now black and gilt.

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STOCK MARKET

KAREN ZAGOR

Wall Street confidence lifts prices in London

A BOOST to confidence from the US lifted UK equities from their worst levels of the day, although the FT-SE 100 failed to add to its week-long gains.

In morning trading the FT-SE 100 fell through the psychologically important 3,800 level and remained lower through most of the day before retracing its biggest losses to close only 0.7 lower at 3,810.7. Buyers were scarce, partly because of the traditional summer lassitude and partly because potential buyers were hesitant to jump into a highly-valued market. Instead, players took the opportunity to take profits after the market's recent gains. Volume was slight, magnifying market movements.

A broker's 'sell' rating knocked 3.5p off British Steel

Gilts initially led equities lower on the back of the morning's CBI survey, which quashed hopes of lower UK base rates. Traders said buying enthusiasm was also dampened by a Gallup Poll showing Labour with a considerable lead over the Conservatives.

The market was also nervous ahead of Wall Street's opening, in anticipation of a high-tech sell-off after a bearish report on semiconductors. But the US opened on a positive note, helping the index to make its recovery.

In the energy sector, **Burmah Castrol** was buoyed by a positive broker's report, adding 22p to £10.20 in heavy trading. Traders noted that there was strong American buying of the shares, which have come back from a year's high of £10.90.

American buying was also cited as the force behind **Hanson's** continued rise to 168.5p, up 2p, in active trading. The company is due to post its third-quarter results on Thursday.

Somerfield, the UK supermarket chain, was one of the bright spots of the day. The shares were priced at 145p and started trading yesterday. Cut from an initial price of 160p amid concern over the recent unpopularity of new issues, Somerfield bucked the trend and ended the day at 159p. **Kwik Save** fell 9p to 415p as *dealers switched into* Somerfield.

"Buy" ratings from a range of brokers bolstered shares in **Rank Organisation**. A day earlier the market had registered its disappointment that *Andrew Teare, Rank's new* boss, had failed to deliver any dramatic news in his strategic review of the company. But a number of analysts took a less negative view, and shares revived to end the day 8p higher at 449p.

British Steel was the biggest blue-chip loser of the day. *Shares started to slump on* reports that analysts at Warburg repeated a "sell" rating on the stock. At the close of trading, the shares were off 3.5p at 178.5p.

BSkyB also benefited from positive recommendations *from two leading brokerage* houses. The shares jumped 8p to 507p, a record high. Analysts are looking for strong results when the company releases its final figures on Tuesday.

***Unilever** disappointed the* City with its second-quarter results, which came in at the bottom end of the forecast range, sending shares as low as £12.32. They ended the day 6p lower at £12.43.

Profit-taking was rife in the life assurance sector, where **Refuge Group** tumbled 15p to 393p and **United Friendly** dropped 34p to 805p. Both *shares closed above their lows* of the day. A day earlier the companies announced merger plans, sending shares in other life assurance companies higher. **Britannic**, which had moved higher on bid speculation, eased 22p to 741p following a "sell" *rating* by Warburg. **Legal & General** slid 7p to 716p and **Lloyds Abbey Life** lost 12p to 548p.

Shares in **Nynex CableComms** and **TeleWest Communications** moved *higher on a report in The Times* that the companies are believed to be holding merger talks. Nynex climbed 5p to 93p; TeleWest firmed 3p to 142p.

Continued bid speculation sparked a buying binge in the electricity sector. "If someone is going to make a move on the Rec side, they have to do it before a Labour government gets in," said one trader. **East Midlands** firmed 4p to 605p. **Southern Electric** added 10p to 697p and **Yorkshire Electric** advanced 11p to 739p.

Reuters was also subject to bid speculation. One trader dismissed the likelihood of a bid but said shares had firmed in anticipation that the company may soon announce a special dividend. Shares closed up 2.5p at 735p, in spite of going ex-dividend.

Renewed bid-related buying was also behind a 13p rise at **Blenheim** to 419p. Similarly, bid rumours lifted **Chiroscience**, the biotechnology company, *10p to 392p*. **British Biotech** advanced 9p to 225p. **Glaxo Wellcome**, the drug company, consolidated its gains following approval to market its Epivir anti-HIV drug in the EU. Near the close of trade the company said its US subsidiary had received approval to market an ulcer drug in the US. Shares closed 7p higher at 900p.

Retail bank stocks moved lower on the back of a negative analyst's report on the sector. **Abbey National** lost 10p to 584p, **Barclays** fell 10p to 888p and **Standard Chartered** was 9p lower at 702p.

Bid rumours involving Bass pushed shares in **Ladbroke** 4.5p higher to 197p.

Boosey & Hawkes was one of the biggest winners of the *day, posting strong gains* following the music company's victory over Disney in a US district court. Its shares surged 68p to 798p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Prices drifted marginally lower in *thin, uninspired trading*. The market lost ground early on but a strong performance in the US helped treasuries to recoup most of their losses. In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt finished £1/32 lower at £107 29/32 with volume of 35,000. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 eased £1/32 to £103⅜ while Treasury 8 per cent 2015 slipped the same to £99 3/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Morning trade was quiet on Wall Street and share prices were mixed. By midday the Dow Jones *Industrial average* was 4.07 points lower at 5,709.42.

Liberty International, the old Trans Atlantic Holdings, has been strong all week. The shares opened at 359p on Monday and closed at 375p yesterday. Dealers attributed the improvement to impressive results earlier in the week, plus ***news that Liberty plans to expand into the pensions business.***

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Bula Resources	3¼p	+¾p	AGM and Libyan deal
Chiroscience	392p	+27p	bid rumours
Hanson	168½p	+13p	renewed US buying
Rank Org	449p	-25p	strategic review
Smith & Nephew	195½p	-9p	results next week
Cadbury-Schweppes	517p	-22p	bid speculation fades
Blenheim Group	419p	-16p	bid hopes ease
Kwik Save	415p	-14p	switch to Somerfield
Unilever (NV)	9140⅝p	-284⅛p	more "mad cow" costs

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5709.42 (-4.07)
S&P Composite	663.41 (+0.82)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	20551.05 (-180.26)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	11104.03 (-60.33)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	549.48 (-0.72)

Sydney:

AO	2221.7 (-4.9)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2525.64 (-12.51)

Singapore:

Straits	Closed

Brussels:

General	9504.64 (+3.65)

Paris:

CAC-40	1980.54 (-7.88)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	760.40 (-6.40)

London:

FT 30	2796.3 (-0.1)
FT 100	3810.7 (-0.7)
FT-SE Mid 250	4324.5 (+5.9)
FT-SE-A 350	1907.3 (+0.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1637.69 (-6.08)
FT A All-Share	1884.86 (+0.43)
FT Non Financials	1989.23 (+2.91)
FT Fixed Interest	113.29 (+0.07)
FT Govt Secs	93.18 (+0.06)
Bargains	30719
SEAQ Volume	513.8m
USM (Datastrm)	204.17 (+0.11)
US$	1.5496 (+0.0001)
German Mark	2.2908 (-0.0047)
Exchange Index	84.6 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2075
£:SDR	1.0597
RPI	153.0 Jun (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	152.6 Jun (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AND International	72	...
Alizyme	50	- 1
Allied Carpets	239	...
Alumax	1959¼	- 9¼
Amer Opps U Ln	100	...
Atkins WS	243	...
British Energy (100)	102¾	+ ½
Digital Animtns	110	- 1
Drings of Bath	4	...
Electronic Retail	198	+ 25
Fayrewood	48	...
HIT Entertain (163)	199	+ 10
Hambros Smlr Asn C	65	...
Hoare Govett 1000 C	97	...
Life Numbers	12	...
Life Numbers Wts	5	...
Lotteryking Wts	1½	...
Plasmon	185	- 1
Pordum Foods Wts	1¼	...
Robert Walters	127	...
SCI Entertainment	163	+ 3
Schrod Em Cntrs C	357	...
Schrod Emg C Wts	36	...
Schrod Emg C	91½	- ½
Selector	68	...
Somerfield (145)	159	...
Therap Antibodes	473	- 2
West 175 Enter	125	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Inspiratns Pf n/p (100)	7	...
Ivern Wst Uts n/p (40)	4	- 1
Jerome & Sons n/p (68)	2	...
Lorien n/p (250)	12	+ 2
Scor Power n/p (250)	64	+ 2
Shaftesbury n/p (125)	13	+ 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

CPL Aromas	288p (+13p)
Parity	299p (+13p)
Telspec	423p (+18p)
Sage Group	453p (+17p)

FALLS:

Utd Friendly	805p (-34p)
Londn & Man	*366p (-15p)*
Micro Focus	743p (-30p)
Refuge	393p (-15p)
Stagecoach	494p (-13p)
Abbey Natl	*584p (-10p)*

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Somerfield checks out

ONE would hope that the rock bottom 145p a share price set by Somerfield's advisers in an effort to get the flotation away marks the nadir of the supermarket group's fortunes. *But which institution, if any, would have* stumped up 159p, yesterday's close of first dealings, for Somerfield shares, when the issue was being priced several weeks ago? Answer: none.

Indeed Kleinwort, merchant bank adviser to Somerfield, would appear to have already taken the necessary steps to justify its 145p price tag. This is still some way short, however, of the initial 180p-190p range indicated for Somerfield in the weeks leading up to the float. *It should also be remembered* that even a cut to 160p, made late on a Friday night after advertisements at 180p-190p had been placed in the national press, was not enough to get the shares away. Tough, but realistic has to be the verdict on the market price now established. It should be remembered that Somerfield has to compete as a *number five to four heavyweights — J* Sainsbury, Tesco, Safeway *and Asda — and* because of its immediate debt-laden past has not been able to expand into key sites in the *way that its four rivals have.*

But in marked contrast to the mood of previous weeks, one broking house was yesterday advising clients to sell shares in Kwik Save, down 9p to 415p, *to buy shares in* Somerfield. The small shareholders who snapped up 16 million of the 300 million *Somerfield shares on offer should hold on.* But the real winners from the flotation are the advisers who share fees of £40 million. Just for once, they have had to work hard.

Unilever

THE marvellous thing about a company the size of Unilever is that if one product suffers a disaster another enjoys a windfall, balancing out the performance of the company.

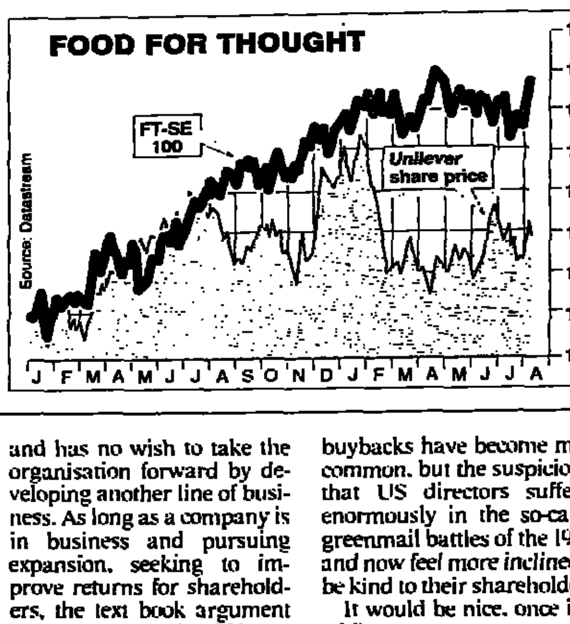
So it was at the Anglo-Dutch consumer products group yesterday which has had to contend with the "mad cow" disease episode in a half year that was *always going to be overshadowed* by the restructuring costs of acquiring Helene Curtis, *the American shampoo maker.*

To no one's great surprise Unilever's beef product sales *have gone down but its fish* and poultry sales have gone up as consumers debate the BSE issue.

The results left analysts on either side of the North Sea with unchanged forecasts around £2.6 billion for the *full year and left* Unilever somewhat underperforming the main UK market (see chart). Unilever's food, drink, detergent, cosmetics and specialty chemicals operations make it a steady *consumer products stock.*

So Unilever can expect to underperform a bit in bull markets but outperform somewhat when the mood is more bearish.

So is Unilever set to come back into fashion? The stock may edge up a little relative *to a more bearish market in* the coming months but all eyes in the City will be on the result of the strategic review being carried out, and on new management when it takes over in September.



Buybacks

INVESTORS often forget that stock markets were invented to encourage, develop and, most importantly, finance entrepreneurial flair. This particular fact of life relegates the art of being a successful investor to finding stocks that provide low-risk safe income, if that is what is needed, or to choosing shares that show the potential for a good degree of capital growth *to compensate for the higher* risk being taken.

But to measure how unadventurous investors have become in the Nineties, one need only look at the fall in Abbey National shares this week in reaction to the absence of a share buyback that the market had half expected to be announced with the results.

The traditional view of share buybacks is that they only become necessary when a company has run its natural course, for example when *a gold miner is done digging* and has no wish to take the organisation forward by developing another line of business. As long as a company is in business and pursuing expansion, seeking to improve returns for shareholders, the text book argument runs, then there should be no need to buy shares in. Indeed, once in a while at least, a healthy company should be issuing shares to expand.

But much has changed in the lean mean Nineties. Low *interest rates discourage cash* hoarding on a multibillion GEC scale, yet directors have still to lower their target returns on planned business projects for the lower inflation prevalent so far this decade.

The tendency to pile up cash can also markedly alter a company's tax position, throwing up the irony that a company lacking advance corporation tax capacity can actually clock up more tax if it distributes the cash than if its retains the money.

In America, share buybacks have become more common, but the suspicion is that US directors suffered enormously in the so-called greenmail battles of the 1980s and now feel *more inclined to* be kind to their shareholders.

It would be nice, once in a while, to see a greater spirit of adventure in the same way as it would be nice to see a reform of ACT.

There must, however, still be some adventurous souls around on the stock market. *London's new Alternative Investment Market set a record* by *raising £177 million* during July, topping the previous record of £77.2 million set during June.

It would be nice to think that *some of this near venture* capital was coming from institutions that have pocketed the easy money from the numerous share buybacks mounted in the past couple of years. Another long-held economic theory: helping the small business sector to develop can only boost future *economic expansion.*

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Sep	1008-1007	Dec	1080-1074
Dec	1025-1024	Mar	1098-1090
Mar	1037-1036	May	1108-1095
May	1048-1047	Jul	1118-1090
Jul	1060-1059		
Sep	1074-1070		Volume: 3737

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1600-1595	May	1490-1480
Nov	1579-1578	Jul	1485-1475
Jan	1532-1530	Sep	1490-1460
Mar	1503-1500		Volume: 7667

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	335.5-34.0
Spot: n/a		Aug	336.5-35.5
Oct	343.6-43.0	Oct	329.5-24.1
Dec	341.4-40.5	Dec	332.5-24.6
Mar	337.6-36.5		Volume: 1972

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 8

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB*	109.61	108.44	101.22
(+/-)	+2.62	+5.71	+5.38
Eng/Wales:	109.62	109.78	100.28
(+/-)	+2.64	+6.37	+5.10
(%)	+6.0	-18.0	-1.0
Scotland:	100.29	101.95	104.24
(+/-)	+1.01	+0.60	+5.16
(%)	+32.0	+25.0	+50.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	20.00	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Sep)	19.90	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Oct)	19.50	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	21.50	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	20.95	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	204 (n/c)	207 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	183 (n/c)	195 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	87 (-2)	89 (-2)
Naphtha	189 (-1)	191 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	179.75-80.00	Nov	177.00-77.50
Sep	178.75-79.00	Dec	176.00-76.25
Oct	178.25-78.75		Vol. 13715

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	19.90-19.92	Dec	18.76 SLR
Oct	19.49-19.53	Jan	18.47 SLR
Nov	19.12-19.15		Vol. 23675

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	109.25	Sep	101.30
Nov	111.20	Nov	104.40
Jan	113.10	Jan	106.50
Mar	115.15	Mar	108.35
May	117.15	May	109.40
	Volume: 398		Volume: 128

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	85.0
Mar		110.0
Apr	94.0	93.5
		Volume: 100

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Sep 91.75-93.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 96	1075	1075	1075
Sep 96	1150	1140	1145
Oct 96	1235	1232	1233
Jan 97	1256	1241	1250
Vol: 122 lots		Open interest: 3944	

Index 1062 +2

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2030.0-2032.0	3mth: 1929.0-1931.0	Vol: 145675
Lead ($/tonne)	824.0-825.00	821.00-821.50	152250
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1011.5-1012.0	1038.0-1038.5	235475
Tin ($/tonne)	6110.0-6115.0	6170.0-6175.0	13605
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1476.0-1477.0	1511.0-1511.5	420050
Nickel ($/tonne)	7130.0-7135.0	7235.0-7236.0	11800

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	37	44	48½	5	13	18
(*448)	460	13½	21	28	20½	33	38½
ASDA	110	8½	11	13	2½	5	6½
(*116½)	120	3	6½	8½	7½	10	11½
Boots	600	31	41½	53	9½	19	23
(*616)	650	8	17	28½	37½	46	49½
Br Airways	500	32	41	52	8½	16	20½
(*518½)	550	8½	18	27½	35½	41½	46½
BP	600	25½	36	45	12½	22½	29
(*613½)	650	6½	14½	22½	44	50½	57
Br Steel	160	21½	23½	26	1	4½	5½
(*178½)	180	8	11½	14½	7½	12	13½
C & W	390	33	42½	50	6	12	17
(*413)	420	15	25	34	17	24½	30½
CU	600	20½	37	44½	20	27	42
(*610)	650	5	15½	24	55½	59	73½
ICI	750	52	69½	80	9½	18	30
(*799½)	800	30½	40	52	30	38½	53½
Land Sec	650	29	36½	49	8½	16½	19
(*666½)	700	5½	11½	23½	36	43½	45½
M & S	*460*	*32*	*39½*	*48*	5	*10½*	*13½*
(*483)	500	8½	17½	26	23	29	32
Nat West	650	27½	46½	55	18½	27½	42½
(*652)	700	9½	24½	32½	51	57	72
Safeway plc	330	21	29	35	7	14	17½
(*341)	360	6½	14½	21	23	30	33½
Sainsbury	390	16	24	32½	8½	16	18½
(*394½)	420	4	11½	19	27	33½	35½
Shell	900	39½	51½	65	13½	21	31½
(*926½)	950	12½	26	37½	41½	47½	57
Smkl Bch	687	29½	—	—	19½	—	—
(*694½)	736	10½	—	—	51	—	—
Storehse	280	21	—	—	3½	—	—
(*294½)	300	9	—	—	11½	—	—
Trafalgar	50	1	—	—	0½	—	—
(*50)	60	0	—	—	10	—	—
Zeneca	1400	66½	100	121	37½	56½	73½
(*1427½)	1450	40	73	94	64	80½	98
	Series	Aug	Nov	Jan	Aug	Nov	Jan
BAT Ind	500	10	25	34½	8½	21½	27
(*509½)	550	0	8	15	52½	55½	59
Vodafone	240	6½	17½	21	3½	11½	14
(*243)	260	0½	9	12	17½	23	25½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	430	31½	42½	49½	0	5½	13
(*450½)	460	4	18	26	12	22	31½
Ladbroke	180	16	20½	25	0½	5½	8
(*195½)	200	2½	9½	14	7	14	17
Utd Bisc	200	12½	18½	23	0½	6	9
(*211½)	220	1	8	13½	9	16	19½

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	460	30½	38	46½	6	13	16
(*480)	500	9½	17½	26	25½	32½	35½
Thames W	550	36½	37½	49	10	22½	27½
(*561½)	600	7	16½	25½	40½	52½	56½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	240	10½	23	27	0	5	6½
(*250)	260	4	10½	15½	4	14	15½
Br Aero	900	39	63½	84½	1½	21	30
(*935)	950	8	36	57	20½	44	55
Br Telcm	360	17	26½	33½	1	8½	14½
(*375½)	390	1	10½	17½	15	22	26
Cadbury	500	17½	32½	40½	2½	16	23
(*514)	550	0½	12	24½	36	45½	51½
Guinness	460	14	25	36½	2½	13½	17½
(*471)	500	0½	8	18	29	37	39½
GEC	360	16½	28	33½	1	7½	12
(*375)	390	1	11½	18	15½	21½	27
Hanson	*160*	*9½*	*13½*	*16½*	*0*	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*169)	190	0½	4½	7½	11	17½	20
LASMO	180	7	13½	18	1	5	6½
(*186)	200	0½	4½	8½	14	16	17½
Lucas	220	12	21	27	1½	8½	10
(*231)	240	1½	10½	16½	10½	19	19½
Pilkingtn	191	4½	—	—	3	—	—
(*192)	210	0	—	—	18	—	—
Prudential	390	27	34	43½	0½	8	12½
(*416)	420	5½	16	26½	9	20½	25½
Redland	420	10½	24½	32½	5	18½	23½
(*425)	460	0	9	15½	35	44	47½
R-Royce	220	5½	13	19	3½	11	14
(*221½)	240	0½	5	10½	18½	23½	25½
Tesco	280	19½	25½	33	1	9½	4½
(*298½)	300	5	14	22	5½	14½	14½
Williams	330	12	18½	—	1	9½	—
(*340½)	360	0	5½	—	19½	28	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3810*)

	3700	3750	3800	3850	3900	3950
Calls						
Aug	110½	61½	23½	4½	1	1
Sep	136½	97	66	42	23½	12
Oct	156½	120	89	63½	42	30
Nov	174	141½	109	84	59½	42½
Dec	190	—	137	—	87	—
Puts						
Aug	2	7	22	51	99	149
Sep	24½	37	56	82	115½	154½
Oct	41½	55½	74½	99½	125	163
Nov	55	71½	88	113	138	172½
Dec	73	—	108	—	159½	—

	Series	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Calls Apr	Puts Sep	Puts Dec	Puts Apr
Abby Natl	550	36	42	56	6	15	21
(*584)	600	7½	23	34½	32	36½	54½
Amstrad	140	19½	21	—	3	4½	—
(*147)	160	5	12	—	15	20	—
Barclays	850	19½	63	79½	12½	24½	41
(*888½)	900	13½	36	53	35	49	66
Blue Circ	340	21	29	33½	6	12	14
(*374)	390	3	14	19	22	25	30
Br Gas	200	8	12½	16	6	10½	14
(*202½)	220	1	5½	10	19	25	27½
Dixons	500	27	35	46	11	19½	25½
(*508)	550	3	14½	24	45	49½	54
Forte	343	39½	—	—	11	—	—
(*378½)	373	2	—	—	4	—	—
Tarmac	100	5	5½	11	3½	7	8½
(*101½)	110	1½	4½	7	9½	13½	14½
Hillsdwn	180	6½	11	14	4½	9	10½
(*181½)	200	0½	3½	6	18½	22	23
Lonrho	160	11½	16	19	2	4½	7
(*166)	180	2½	6	9½	13	14½	17
Sears	90	9	11½	—	1	2	—
(*97)	100	3	6	—	4½	6½	—
Thorn	1700	95½	121½	—	17½	38	—
(*1770)	1800	29	64	—	64	93	—
Tomkins	260	5½	13	17	10	13½	17
(*263)	280	1	6½	9½	26½	27½	30
Lloyds TSB	330	20½	31	37	3½	9½	18
(*345)	360	5	19	21½	14	24	31½
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Glaxo W	900	26½	51	67	31	44½	64
(*901)	950	11	31	46	71½	81	93½
HSBC	1100	64½	92½	108	22	38½	60½
(*1147½)	1150	37	65½	51½	44	62	84½
Reuter	700	54	74	84½	12	23½	32
(*734½)	750	25½	46	57	32½	45½	55
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Royal & Sun	366	27	36	41	7	13½	20½
(*386½)	394	12	21	26½	19½	26½	34½
	Series	Oct	Feb	May	Oct	Feb	May
Kingfishr	600	47½	67½	75	7	18½	26½
(*636½)	650	17½	38	47	28	40	49½
	Series	Oct	Dec	Mar	Oct	Dec	Mar
Unilever	1200	62½	73½	94	7	17	22
(*1242½)	1250	30	42	63½	25	37	42
	Series	Sep	Dec	Apr	Sep	Dec	Apr
Natl Pwr	400	17½	29½	30½	7	17	22½
(*407½)	450	2½	9½	19½	41	47½	51½
Scot Pwr	321	3½	15½	21½	12	19	25½
(*326)	353	1	6½	11½	34½	40½	45

August 9, 1996 Tot: 28030 Call: 13595 Put: 14435 FT-SE Call: 5745 Put: 8001
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 65086	Sep 96 Dec 96	3818.0	3819.0	3791.5	3811.0 3832.5	9067 0
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3441	Sep 96 Dec 96				4324.0	0 0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 413726	Sep 96 Dec 96 Mar 97	94.18 94.06 93.88	94.19 94.10 93.90	94.15 94.05 93.82	94.17 94.06 93.86	18022 30038 17772
Three Mth Euro Yen	Dec 96 Mar 97	99.02 98.76	99.03 98.76	99.02 98.76	99.03 98.76	750 201
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1044185	Sep 96 Dec 96	96.69 96.67	96.70 96.68	96.68 96.65	96.69 96.66	11765 22163
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 148250	Sep 96 Dec 96	108-02 107-01	108-04 107-08	107-22 107-01	107-29 107-04	36400 108
Japanese Govmt Bond	Sep 96 Dec 96	120.01 118.79	120.03 118.79	119.93 118.69	119.99 118.75	2278 1302
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 250548	Sep 96 Dec 96	97.74 96.97	98.01 97.12	97.71 96.89	97.86 96.99	104632 689
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 26632	Sep 96 Dec 96	95.51 95.53	95.51 95.53	95.46 95.48	95.49 95.50	1786 704
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 72400	Sep 96 Dec 96	97.70 97.06	97.74 97.06	97.69 97.00	97.74 97.05	1362 4137
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 66750	Sep 96 Dec 96	116.49 115.91	116.58 115.84	115.65 115.10	115.78 115.15	59453 396

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low 4½ Week fixed: [illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]; Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open [illegible], close 4½					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	6
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.33	n/a	5.40	5.52	5.79
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applctn: £1,502m allotted: £600m. Bids: £98.6[illegible]% received: 89%; Last week: £98.6155% received: 16%; Avge rate: £5.5[illegible]% last wk £5.5349%; Next week: £600m

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+3
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	2⅛-2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $388.30-388.60 Close: $387.40-387.90 High: $388.90-389.40
Low: $387.00-387.50 AM: $388.40 PM: $387.50

Krugerrand: $387.00-389.00 (£249.00-251.00)

Platinum: $400.75 (£258.55) *Silver:* $5.07 (£3.2[illegible]) *Palladium:* $129.50 (£83.55)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for August 9	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5698-2.5906	2.5698-2.5724	[illegible]pr	1⅝-1½pr
Brussels	47.207-47.420	47.207-47.241	13-8pr	33-26pr
Copenhagen	8.8591-8.8970	8.8591-8.8672	1⅝-1⅛pr	5-4pr
Dublin	0.9618-0.9653	0.9621-0.9632	3pr-1ds	5pr-1ds
Frankfurt	2.2897-2.2993	2.2897-2.2917	[illegible]pr	1½-1⅛pr
Lisbon	235.54-236.76	235.54-235.79	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Madrid	195.04-195.69	195.04-195.17	24-33ds	74-91ds
Milan	2352.4-2357.4	2354.2-2356.9	6-7ds	18-20ds
Montreal	2.1246-2.1317	2.1255-2.1271	0.30-0.25pr	0.60-0.52pr
New York	1.5492-1.5531	1.5492-1.5498	0.07-0.05pr	0.14-0.11pr
Oslo	9.9022-9.9200	9.9022-9.9176	1⅛-⅝pr	3-2pr
Paris	7.8281-7.8530	7.8281-7.8342	1½-1⅛pr	3⅝-3⅛pr
Stockholm	10.296-10.329	10.301-10.317	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Tokyo	167.40-167.94	167.44-167.61	[illegible]pr	2⅝-2⅛pr
Vienna	16.118-16.181	16.118-16.124	[illegible]pr	1-⅝pr
Zurich	1.8643-1.8728	1.8643-1.8663	[illegible]pr	1⅝-1⅜pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr Discount - ds*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2845-1.2853
Austria	10.41-10.42
Belgium (Com)	30.50-30.51
Canada	1.3715-1.3720
Denmark	5.7230-5.7260
France	5.0620-5.0645
Germany	1.4790-1.4797
Hong Kong	7.7377-7.7382
Ireland	1.6075-1.6085
Italy	1519.50-1520.00
Japan	108.13-108.18
Malaysia	2.4910-2.4920
Netherlands	1.6601-1.6606
Norway	6.3948-6.4023
Portugal	152.18-152.28
Singapore	1.4155-1.4160
Spain	126.05-126.14
Sweden	6.6525-6.6600
Switzerland	1.2049-1.2056

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5498-1.5524
Australia dollar	1.9904-1.9929
Bahrain dinar	0.5798-0.5840
Brazil real*	1.5054-1.5076
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7070-0.7170
Finland markka	6.9650-6.9810
Greece drachma	364.25-371.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.9806-12.0012
India rupee	54.90-55.86
Indonesia rupiah	3603.00-3671.00
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4598-0.4690
Malaysia ringgit	3.8608-3.8648
New Zealand dollar	2.2508-2.2539
Pakistan rupee	n/a
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5800-5.6000
Singapore dollar	2.1939-2.1961
S Africa rand (com)	6.9810-7.0851
U A E dirham	5.6400-5.7540

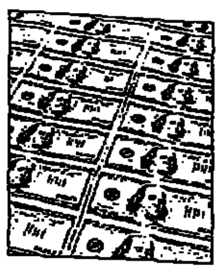
Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	787	Marks Spr	1,500
ASDA Gp	5,000	NatWst Bk	2,300
Abbey Ntl	6,100	Nat Grid	1,700
Allied Dom	253	Nat Power	1,300
Argos	143	Next	412
AB Foods	491	Orange	1,600
BAA	389	P & O	339
BAT Inds	3,100	Pearson	618
BOC	1,000	Pilkington	510
BP	4,800	PowerGen	922
BSkyB	*1,700*	*Prudential*	*3,000*
BTR	7,300	RMC	81
BT	9,400	RTZ	576
Bk of Scot	2,400	Railtrack	8,300
Barclays	5,000	Rank Org	5,100
Bass	664	Reckitt Col	1,000
Blue Circle	1,000	Redland	586
Boots	1,400	Reed Intl	966
BAe	404	Rentokil	1,300
BA	931	Reuters	3,500
Brit Gas	7,400	Rolls Royce	884
Brit Steel	*6,000*	*Royal & Sun*	2,200
Burmah Cstl	834	Royal Bk Sct	1,000
Burton	2,700	Safeway	1,300
Cable Wire	2,000	Sainsbury	2,700
Cadbury	1,000	Schroders	26
Carlton Cms	270	Scot & New	1,000
Cm Union	855	Scot Power	1,400
Cookson	1,400	Svrn Trent	470
Courtaulds	443	Shell Trans	2,400
Dixons	151	Siebe	1,200
Enterpr Oil	821	SmKl Bch	4,400
GKN	828	Smith Nph	1,100
GRE	903	Smiths Inds	1,400
GUS	1,400	Sthern Elec	918
Gen Acc	1,000	Std Chartd	1,900
Gen Elec	5,300	TI Gp	1,800
Glaxo Well	2,500	Tate & Lyle	379
Granada	1,700	Tesco	2,300
Grand Met	3,200	Thames W	297
Guinness	1,600	Thrn EMI	1,100
HSBC	2,700	Tomkins	2,000
Hanson	10,300	Unilever	1,400
ICI	*1,900*	*Utd Utilities*	*943*
Kingfisher	514	Utd News	2,000
LASMO	3,200	Vodafone	3,500
Ladbroke	5,400	Whitbread	1,300
Land Secs	374	Wllms Hld	804
Legal & Gn	*605*	*Wolseley*	*337*
Lloyds TSB	7,800	Zeneca	402

WALL STREET

	Aug 9 midday	Aug 8 close



PAYMENTS 28

Check out the clearance of cheques

WEEKEND MONEY

PENSIONS 30

Look to the future and plan for retirement

Will the N&P savers adopt Abbey habit?

As another building society is swallowed up, **Anne Ashworth** sees what rates are on offer

In the final chapter of a 147-year history, the National & Provincial Building Society has passed into the control of the Abbey National. The bumble bee logo has disappeared from N&P branches to be replaced by the Abbey's couple under a roof-shaped umbrella trademark. But these latest signs of the continuing decline of mutuality are of much less interest to N&P's 1.3 million members than the Abbey money that is about to rain down upon them.

Payments, which average £1,300, will be made between August 27 and September 2 and 80 per cent have opted for cash, rather than Abbey shares.

Anxious to retain these new savers, the Abbey claims that all its rates are "competitive", being the same, and sometimes better than those that were offered by N&P. The building society-turned-bank has transferred each N&P saver from his now defunct N&P account into the closest equivalent Abbey account. Instant Reserve customers have, for example, been switched into the Instant Saver Account, whose rates range from 0.50 to 3.70 per cent.

However, the Abbey's assurances that it pays as well as N&P will not convince the society's former faithful, especially as the Abbey's rates have yet to be amended to reflect the June base rate cut. Before its demise, the N&P's rates were poor. So it seems likely that, once they have received their share of the Abbey loot, former savers will desert for another society that may, in the future, yield them another windfall, in spite of its current wish to remain independent and mutual.

Among the larger societies that declare they have no wish to become a bank or a bank subsidiary are Nationwide, Bradford & Bingley, Britannia, Yorkshire, Birmingham Midshires, Portman and Skipton. All are eager to welcome former N&P savers; the Yorkshire has even launched a special deal for N&P savers who are receiving Abbey shares. They can sell free of charge and invest the cash in a one-year term account paying 6.25 per cent (minimum balance of £1,000). *Moneyfacts* also rates the society's postal account a best buy.

We asked the Abbey and the seven societies for their best instant access share account rates on three amounts: £500, £1,000 and £10,000. The results show that Abbeyness does not always lead to contentment.

Those who have already opened accounts at the UK societies tipped for takeover or merger may be looking further afield. First National, the Republic of Ireland's largest building society, which this week bought The Mortgage Corporation, the home loans business, offers a postal account to UK savers. However, customers of the society's UK division will not benefit if First National becomes a bank (a likely move) as they are depositors not shareholding members.

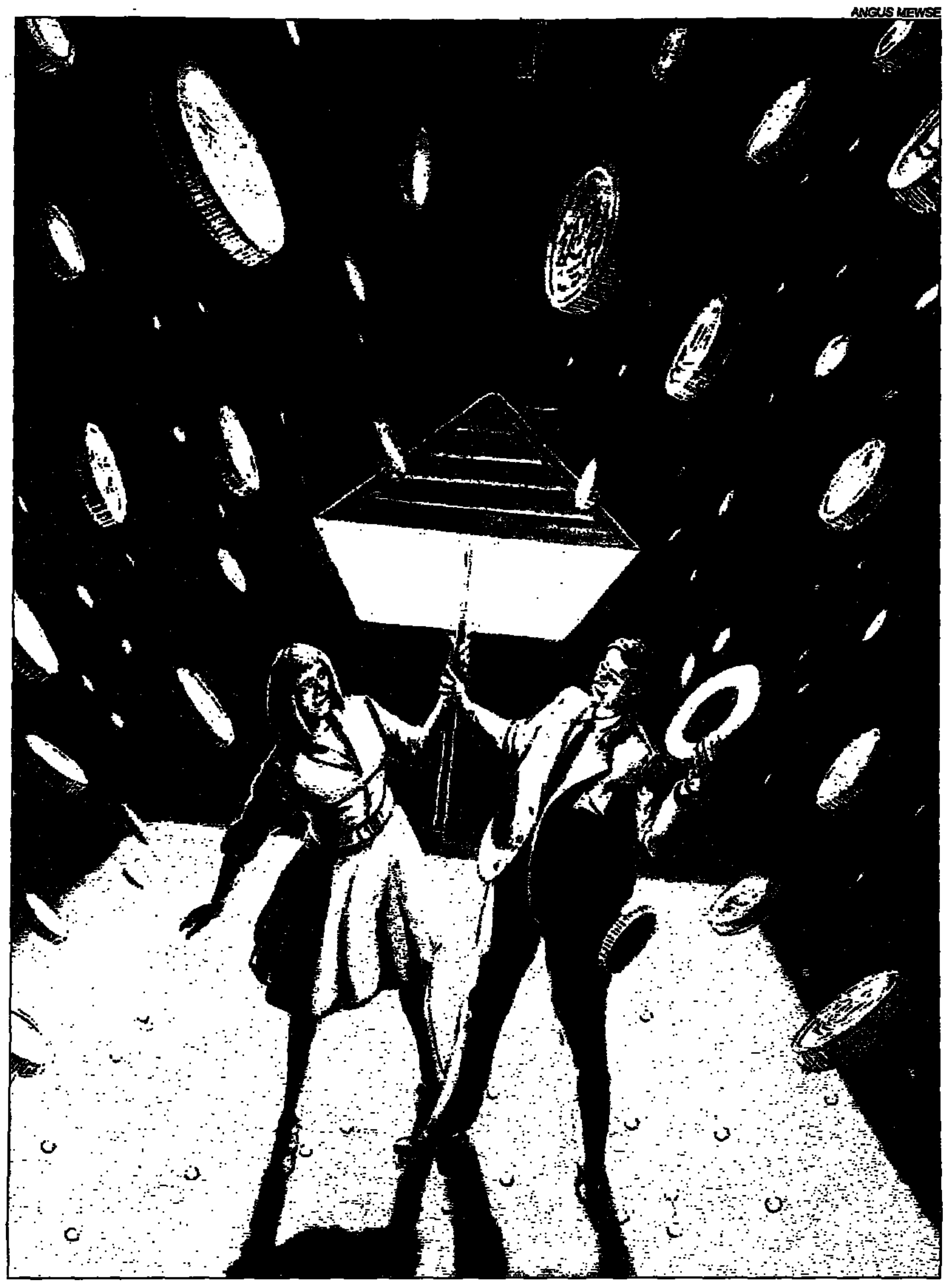
UK savers can, however, open an account at one of First National's Republic of Ireland branches. But they may or may not benefit if the society moves to convert.

THE RATES

Abbey	£500	2.45%
	£1,000	2.90%
	£10,000	3.30%
Nationwide	£500	2.8%
	£1,000	2.8%
	£10,000	3.6%
Bradford & Bingley	£500	2.50%
	£1,000	2.50%
	£10,000	3.55%
Britannia	£500	2.10%
	£1,000	2.10%
	£10,000	4.70%
Yorkshire	£500	2.00%
	£1,000	4.90%
	£10,000	5.00%
Birmingham Midshires	min £1,000	2%
	£10,000	4.75%
Portman	£500	4.50%
	£1,000	4.50%
	£10,000	4.50%
Skipton	£500	3.00%*
	£1,000	3.00%*
	£10,000	4.25%

*deposit account

Money tables, page 32



ANGUS MEWSE

Million in line for bonuses

One million policyholders with Refuge Assurance will share in a £101 million special bonus after the company's announcement that it is merging with United Friendly (Marianne Curphey writes).

They are being paid compensation for the restructuring of the company. It will take the form of a special reversionary bonus for 1996 that will be added now and paid out when the policies mature.

Only those with industrial branch and ordinary branch life policies are eligible for the payout. Refuge will set aside £101 million that will be shared among people with eligible policies taken out before August 8.

The bonuses vary according to the type of policy held. A customer with a ten-year industrial branch endowment policy taken out in 1988, with a sum assured of £5,000, will be allocated an extra £244. A customer with a 20-year ordinary branch endowment policy taken out in 1981, with a sum assured of £8,000, will be allocated an extra £763.

A man who started to pay £300 a year towards a pension policy in 1986 at the age of 35 will have £128 a year added to the value of his pension when he retires at 65.

Refuge announced on Thursday that it was bidding for United Friendly, and the two have arranged a merger deal that will create a company to be known as United Assurance.

The combined company will have 6.6 million written policies, although many customers have more than one policy. United policyholders will not be given any special bonuses, but the directors say they will enjoy the benefits of being part of a stronger company that can return better investment results.

Refuge will be writing to policyholders, informing them of the proposals, and inviting comments to be submitted to the Independent Actuary by September 2. A merger helpline for policyholders has been set up on 0645 368369.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Victory on illness insurance

Napier: in severe pain

A man debilitated by a rheumatic illness has won a £1 million case against UNUM, the American-owned permanent health insurer, after a ten-year battle.

The decision could mean such insurers, which are supposed to pay out when a policyholder becomes ill and cannot work, may now be forced to meet millions more pounds in claims at present being rejected.

The PHI industry, which collects about £400 million in premiums a year, has been criticised by the Office of Fair Trading for charging a wide range of amounts and providing confusing policies.

When Robert Napier, 50, contracted the rheumatic illness he became very tired, found it difficult to sleep, and was in severe pain. He became unable to work in 1985 and claimed against his policy for 60 per cent of his salary as a Lloyd's underwriter of £62,500 a year.

But UNUM stopped paying him in 1994, saying that he was not ill. The company also argued that PHI claims were not a matter for the courts and only an insurer had the right to decide who was paid.

But the High Court held that Mr Napier was ill and had a right to be paid in the future and for the past. It also held that no insurance company was above the courts.

Mr Napier says: "I have suffered from chronic aching joints and tiredness for years now and the stress of UNUM's attitude has just made it all so much worse. I think this is a victory for all claimants."

After Mr Napier became too ill to work he was paid by UNUM. But at times, UNUM suspended his payments, questioning whether he was ill, in spite of his GP's reports that he was a chronic invalid.

In 1994, the company stopped paying altogether after a report from one orthopaedic surgeon who stated that Mr Napier had grossly exaggerated his disability. However, Mr Napier had other specialists' reports that confirmed he had fibromyalgia, a rheumatic disorder that causes intense burning pain and debilitating fatigue. In a later report, the first orthopaedic surgeon accepted that he was wrong.

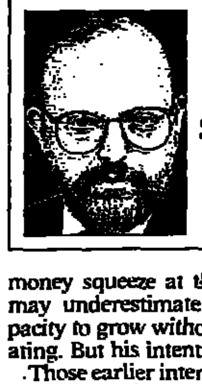
The UNUM Action Group has 40 members whose claims have been rejected by UNUM.

UNUM says: "Mr Napier's was a difficult case because there was conflicting medical evidence. The judge made it clear that UNUM had acted in a bona fide manner."

JODY BRETTKELLY

No terror from Eddie

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Eddie George has spoken. If the Governor has his way with the Chancellor, short-term interest rates will rise "sooner rather than later" to forestall faster growth and dud state finances combining to boost inflation. Just two months ago, canny Ken Clarke cut base rates another quarter point to 5¾ per cent. This week, steady Eddie has made it clear, via the Bank of England *Inflation Report*, that a move back up will be on the agenda when the two meet again in four weeks.

That need not mean money will be dearer for Christmas, any more than expectations of a rate rise in America or Japan have yet produced one. It does mean that Mr George is trying to shove any thought of an autumn cut off the agenda. Suspicious central bankers fret that rate cuts might become too politically tempting, the harder it gets to cut taxes ahead of the election. But the agenda may have been changed already. Even inveterate growth-mongers have stopped demanding cuts.

Clarion calls from bankers can strike terror into the hearts of homebuyers. Folk memories are nightmarish. Twenty years ago, base rates rose by 4½ points in a few months. In 1978-79, they careered from 6 to 17 per cent. In 1984-85, they jumped almost 6 points. Even fresher in the memory, base rates doubled to 15 per cent in 1988-89. That caused a slump that has left about a million still owing more than their property is worth.

In this case, terror would be misplaced. The Governor may be jumping the gun, when the economic expansion is just regrowing after a modest 1½-point money squeeze at the end of 1994. He may underestimate the economy's capacity to grow without inflation accelerating. But his intentions are right.

Those earlier interest rate shocks were caused by inflation or sterling devaluation getting out of hand. If the Chancellor waited for evidence that inflation was accelerating, the Bank argues "it would be too late to prevent a sharper policy correction that would be more damaging to stability than an earlier pre-emptive move".

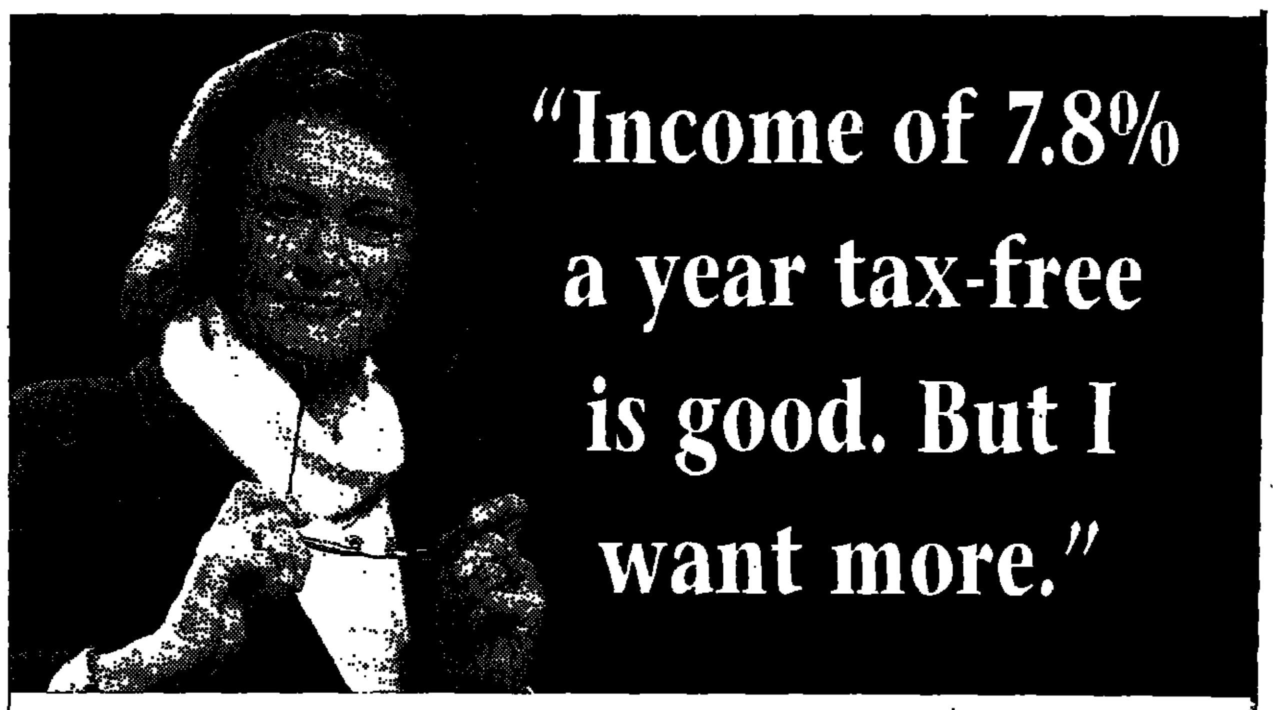
This year's four quarter-point rate cuts proved that the post-ERM system of money management could work. They showed that, without the fly-wheel effect of high inflation, monetary adjustments can be small and short, and can curb expansion without killing it.

If you accept the Bank's call for a touch on the brakes, then prompt action should not require base rates to rise above 7 per cent. Probably, less would be needed. Anyone who takes out a variable rate mortgage without allowing a 1½-point margin of error is a fool. Curbing house price inflation to 5-7 per cent this year would ultimately help to sustain expansion. It would halve negative equity, keep prices affordable and stop lenders widening margins.

On the stock market, movements in short-term interest rates are traditionally the main short-term influence on gilt-edged stocks. But long-term interest rates are ultimately influenced more by inflation. Over the past couple of years, yields have trended gently down to reflect lower inflation more than changes in money costs. For bond investors, higher base rates are certainly "a price worth paying" to keep down inflation.

For equities, the balance is reversed. High inflation made growth in money profits and output dominate share movements in the endless interplay with interest rates. In the early 1980s, when inflation came down, base rates became a bigger influence. Since 1992, with inflation under control, share prices have become even more sensitive to money rates.

This was amply demonstrated by the early summer price falls and this month's sharp recovery, although both were geared to an expected move in American rather than British interest rates. Shares are vulnerable to any autumn rate rise. But with sentiment improving and profits growing healthily, the short-term adjustment could be as modest as the one Eddie George has in mind. The deeper worry is that companies are not investing enough.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Sarah Jones offers guidance on which lenders to look at to secure the best interest rates

Summertime surge of new loan offers

The lure of the P registration car is taking demand for personal loans up to top gear. Direct Line, the insurance group, says that July was its best month ever — largely because of the demand for car finance.

To encourage more of us to splash out on shiny new cars and on holidays, banks and building societies are continuing to launch new loan packages.

This month the Skipton Building Society has joined forces with NWS bank, which provides loans for the AA, to offer new loan rates that Ron Bell, marketing manager, claims "make a new car, home improvements or an exotic holiday suddenly become affordable".

In fact, the rates — at 20.9 per cent APR for £1,000 to £2,999, 17.9 per cent for £3,000 to £4,999, and 15.9 per cent for £5,000 to £10,000 — can be bettered. For example, Abbey National, which cut its rates substantially this month, is at least 2 per cent lower at 17.4 per cent, 15.4 per cent and 13.9 per cent for the different bands. On loans of £10,000 to £15,000, Abbey's rate is 12.9 per cent, its lowest rate ever.

The AA, which reports that its loans are selling extraordinarily well, has reduced its rates by 2 per cent. On a £5,000 loan for existing customers, the rate is now 15.7 per cent for general purposes and 14.7 per cent for a car loan. Rates for non-members are considerably higher. So, for a large loan, it is probably worth joining the AA first for £39. Meanwhile, NatWest is knocking 1 per cent off its rates for loans of more than £2,000 for this month only, bringing rates to 14.9 per cent for a £5,000 loan.

> ‘Don't take the first proposal that drops through the letter-box’

If you are tempted by one of these offers, first work out how much the loan will cost. If you want a new car that costs £6,000 and you pay it back over three years at 15.9 per cent, the vehicle will really cost you £7,471. Don't take the first offer that drops through the letter-box. Rates vary enormously. For example, the rate for a £5,000 loan at Barclays is 17.9 per cent, at Marks & Spencer 15.9 per cent, and at First Direct 13.9 per cent. Decide the amount you need and how soon you can pay it off, and then phone round, asking for the amount of the monthly repayment as well as the interest rate.

Several providers offer preferential rates for existing customers. Direct Line, which has one of the lowest rates, will knock off a percentage point to 11.8 per cent on a £5,000 loan over three years if you already hold two or more of its products. At the Halifax, now offering one year's free membership of Green Flag National Breakdown if you take out a car loan, the rates depend on your relationship with the society. For a customer of less than six months, the rate is 18.9 per cent, whereas if you have a Halifax mortgage it is 14.9 per cent.

Generally, however, the more you borrow, the lower the rate. Rates for loans under £3,000 can be particularly high — for example, 20.9 per cent at Barclays and 21.9 per cent at the TSB.

For smaller purchases it may be less expensive to use credit cards such as those offered by People's Bank (14.4 per cent), Save & Prosper (11.2 per cent) or RBS Advanta (15.6 per cent).

Borrowers may wonder whether to take out payment protection insurance with their loans. If you think your circumstances may change, preventing you from keeping up payments, then perhaps you should not be taking the loan out at all.

The insurance adds substantially to the overall cost — about £500 on a three-year loan of £3,000. The APR will reflect the cost of insurance only where it is compulsory.

Money tables, page 32

JOHN HOULIHAN/GUZELIAN

Stuart Ashall is repaying £80 a month for his car loan

STUART ASHALL, a trainee solicitor, has taken out a £2,300 loan with Abbey National to buy a second-hand Fiat Tipo. Mr Ashall, 25, from Leeds, said: "I had no ready cash and no rich parents, but I needed a car for work." Mr Ashall is repaying £80 a month for three years. He said: "I rang round to find the most competitive rate for the amount and a loan that was easy to apply for. I don't notice the repayments."

Try fishing offshore for better saving deals

Caroline Merrell

finds there is a growing interest in getting higher rates

Catching up: poor onshore rates have prompted many to look offshore

Four years ago, just before the last general election, there was an explosion in the popularity of offshore accounts. Many people, fearing the election of a higher-taxing Labour government, moved their savings offshore.

This time round, the offshore banks and building societies are not reporting any heightened interest in their accounts because of the nearness of the next election. However, they are reporting that dwindling onshore interest rates, now at a record low, have led many people to try to reorganise their finances so that they pay less tax on their savings.

The single biggest advantage of offshore accounts is that they pay interest gross. It is up to the individual account-holder to sort out his or her tax. For UK resident non-taxpayers, this is an advantage. If their money is held on deposit onshore, it is taxed automatically. Non-taxpayers must register their tax status, or go through the procedure of claiming back the tax.

However, even for taxpayers, some of the rates offered by the offshore subsidiaries are better than those on shore. For example, Woolwich Guernsey offers an instant access account that will pay an interest rate of 5.25 per cent on a deposit of £500 — this represents a net interest rate of 4.2 per cent. This is much higher than the rates offered by many of the onshore building societies for this level of savings.

It is important for those who keep their money offshore to declare the interest earned to the Inland Revenue. The Revenue said this week that it was planning to increase its investigation of tax evasion. A spokesman said: "Anyone who is caught evading tax faces paying the same amount again in fines."

Many UK building societies have set up offshore subsidiaries relatively recently. They are aware that many people could use their accounts as a way of avoiding paying income tax, so most clearly alert potential customers to the fact that they could be liable for tax on the interest.

Bradford & Bingley Building Society set up its offshore subsidiary in the Isle of Man in 1992. It now has 12 different accounts. The society said that the offshore accounts were aimed mainly at the expatriate market. "We have customers in 130 different countries. Many are British nationals living and working throughout the world. We state in our literature that interest must be declared as income. Not to do so could be construed as tax evasion." The society now has close to £1 billion held on deposit offshore.

Most of the offshore accounts recommended by *Moneyfacts*, the monthly guide to investment and mortgage rates, are offered by the Newcastle Bank in Gibraltar. The bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Newcastle Building Society. Its Nova range of accounts all offer more than 6 per cent annual interest.

The offshore subsidiary was set up just over two years ago and now has more than £40 million held on deposit. Keith Amiss, Newcastle Bank's managing director, said: "Our major audience is expats, particularly the expat market in Spain. For people who do their own tax affairs, keeping money offshore can have certain advantages."

Cater Allen, the Jersey-based bank, has more than £370 million held in offshore deposits. Tony Haile, managing director, said that most of the money held on deposit was from UK nationals living overseas. "We advertise mainly in the offshore press," he said.

Revenue seeks 'lost £10bn'

The Inland Revenue has launched an investigation into the activities of offshore building societies in an attempt to recoup some of the £10 billion that the Government believes that it has lost through tax evasion by individual customers.

The inquiry will look at whether these societies can keep their offshore status and continue to pay interest gross.

For many years, the Revenue has been concerned that thousands of UK taxpayers are evading tax by not declaring the interest earned on investments. The fact that the savings are held offshore means that the Revenue has very little power of investigation: its only option is to look at the relationship between the parent building society and the offshore society. If the control of the offshore subsidiary is deemed to be ultimately in the UK, then the subsidiary could lose its offshore status.

The Revenue is also looking at the interest rate differentials between the onshore building societies and the offshore subsidiaries.

A Bradford & Bingley spokeswoman said: "The Inland Revenue has asked us a number of different questions, which appear to be routine. We are not the only society to be the subject of scrutiny."

WHERE TO FIND THE TOP PAYERS

OFFSHORE ACCOUNT	Telephone	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	% Rate	Interest paid
Woolwich Guernsey	01481 715735	International	Instant	£500	5.25	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Access	Instant	£5,000	6.00	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Access	Instant	£25,000	6.30	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Access	Instant	£50,000	6.45	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Ninety	90 Day	£5,000	6.30	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Ninety	90 Day	£25,000	6.50	Yly
C&G Channel Islands	01481 715422	Guernsey 90	90 Day	£25,000	6.40	Yly
Newcastle Bank (Gibraltar)	00350 76168	Nova Ninety	90 Day	£50,000	6.60	Yly
C&G Channel Islands	01481 715422	Guernsey 90	90 Day	£100,000	6.65	Yly
Britannia International	01624 628512	2 Year Bond	31.7.98	£5,000	7.00	F/Yly
Skipton (Guernsey)	01481 727374	3 Year Bond	30.9.99	£10,000	7.40	F/Yly
Northern Rock (Guernsey)	01481 714600	Millennium Bond	1.1.00	£10,000	7.50	F/Yly

Nb. F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable). Rates shown are gross and subject to change without notice. Please check rates before investing. Figures compiled on August 6.

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)

A QUESTION OF MONEY

Check out the clearance of cheques to and from abroad

Payments to and from abroad can be a headache. For small amounts, the costs of paying an overseas cheque into your account can eat up a large slice of the sum due.

Last month Barry Goodman received a refund from a US publishing company for a magazine subscription. He sent off the $16.20 cheque to his NatWest bank. A few days later, the cheque was returned to him, with the message "uneconomical to process". NatWest suggested that Mr Goodman returned the cheque to the publishing company and get it to pay the money directly into his UK bank account.

Mr Goodman, who works for a design agency, said: "The cheque in question is a magazine subscription refund and will probably expire shortly. I have absolutely no idea what to do with it." He points out that by the time he has contacted the US bank, he will have used up a considerable amount of the cheque's value — about £10. Mr Goodman's problem is not uncommon. Many people receive freelance earnings from abroad or are sent money by relatives. What is the best way to deal with this sort of transaction?

Q If I receive regular payments from one source abroad, what is the best way of paying them into my UK bank account?

A If you are in the position of receiving a regular overseas income, the most cost-effective way of paying the money into your bank account is to arrange for the money from overseas to be transferred electronically. For example, NatWest will make no charge for electronic transactions under £100. In Mr Goodman's case, this would be the only cost-effective way of dealing with the cheque.

Q If payments are erratic and from different sources abroad, what is the best way of dealing with payment?

A In general, it is best to deal directly with your own branch, rather than through a branch where you may not be a familiar face. Many of the clearers will operate on a discretionary basis when it comes to dealing with cheques from abroad. If you have a long, well-established relationship with your bank, you may be able to negotiate about the costs of the transaction, which could be very high, for example, £16 on amounts over £100.

Q What would have have been the costs on Mr Goodman's transaction?

A NatWest charges a flat rate of £5 on transactions of under £100, or 0.3 per cent. The minimum charge for transactions over £100 is £16, while the maximum charge is £80.

Other banks will charge a different amount. For example, Barclays will charge 0.25 per cent. The minimum cost is £16, while the maximum is £40. The two tariffs quoted above are under the "cheques for collection system". Mr Goodman's cheque would have been processed under this system, which would have halved the value of the cheque. Under the collection system, the UK bank will contact the foreign bank that originated the cheque and collect the funds — these will eventually be paid into the UK customer's bank account.

Barclays points out that there is no guarantee how long this transaction will take. In more obscure countries, it could take weeks.

Q Is there a quicker way of processing the transaction than through collection?

A Banks can process cheques under the negotiation system. They will tend to do this if they have a long, well-established relationship with the customer. Under this system, the money will be credited to the client's bank account straight away. The bank will then contact the originating bank to retrieve the funds. The UK bank reserves the right to debit its client's bank account if there is a problem with the cheque.

The charges for negotiated cheques will be different from the charges levied for cheques for collection. For example, NatWest will charge a flat fee of £5 for items of £100 or the equivalent. Other than that, the fee is 0.275 per cent with a minimum of £9 and a maximum of £80.

Q Is it easier to send money overseas?

A The UK clearing banks seem to have a more economic method of allowing their customers to send money to friends, relatives and businesses abroad. The costs will depend on the speed of transfer and whether cash or a cheque is needed by the recipient. Express services that take a couple of days will incur costs of about £16 to £18. Cash can be sent abroad using Thomas Cook's MoneyGram service, or using the Western Union. The costs will depend on the amount and the destination. Citibank this week launched InterCiti, a service that allows customers to transfer funds free of charge to another Citibank account abroad.

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NATIONAL SAVINGS

UNIQUE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FROM HM TREASURY

Lessons from The Mortgage Corporation

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Barry Norman, the film critic, must be relieved. A decade ago, he starred in a series of advertisements for The Mortgage Corporation. At first, this new lender, with its cut-price offers, put the competition in the shade. But its subsequent fall from grace is chronicled in cuttings where words like "harass" and "aggressive" appear with alarming frequency. Mr Norman's name also features as the man who initially extolled TMC's virtues.

This week his embarrassment should end with the sale of TMC to First National, a building society in the Irish Republic. TMC and its loan book will be merged with Mortgage Trust, First National's existing UK business. The Mortgage Corporation brand, nowadays anything but a valuable commodity, will vanish.

Those more interested in seeing justice done than in celebrity associations will be pleased to learn that the year-long Office of Fair Trading investigation into TMC will continue. OFT officials still intend to uncover whether 300 complaints about TMC's methods were justified.

The fate of TMC's 22,000 unfortunate borrowers should also stay in the public eye. TMC's current variable mortgage rate is 7.99 per cent, 1 per cent more than the norm. This sort of discrepancy has become a way of life for TMC customers.

First National will not pledge to cut rates for all borrowers. However, Weekend Money has been told that customers with better than average credit risks may see their rates decrease.

Such a move would win goodwill and make sound business sense. Salomon, TMC's previous US owner, seems to have kept interest rates high in the hope that customers would disappear.

First National must surely aspire to retain as many as possible and needs to be conciliatory, even to those customers with problems. In the past, negative equity may have prevented some borrowers from signing for advantageous remortgage deals elsewhere. But rising house prices may now mean that these customers can contemplate switching lenders.

For all other homebuyers and household names, TMC holds some simple lessons. Never get a mortgage from an organisation that cannot quote its average rate over a five-year period, and never endorse such a business.

Merger losers

AS THICK as an airport book, the Refuge and United Friendly merger document appears turgid. But concealed is a compelling story where some gain, some lose, without much justice.

The losers include United Friendly policyholders who will not receive a special bonus.

They are assured that, as customers of a larger business, they should enjoy improved investment returns. But whether size necessarily assures better performance is a moot point.

Refuge with-profit policyholders will share a special bonus of £101 million. But they may wonder if a windfall to be added to their policies at maturity is adequate recompense for assets to be removed from their life fund to be distributed to shareholders.

Refuge unit-linked policyholders are excluded from the special bonus that might have been consolation for having invested in some of the poorest value schemes available.

Refuge and United Friendly sell to unsophisticated consumers. That may shield the groups from customer protest now. But they must deliver on their promises, or face unrest in the future.

Sarah Jones on the lender that took two months to make a mortgage offer to first-time buyers

Slow time not show time at the B&W

SOCIETY WATCH

JOHN ANGERSON/GUZELIAN

Nick Rhodes and Samantha McMahon say B&W said their case was marked urgent

New customers are usually excluded from building society merger or conversion windfalls. But although Bristol & West announced that it was to be taken over by Bank of Ireland in April, those who take out a mortgage before December 1 can still share in the largesse, receiving £250 in preference shares.

Although this would seem to make securing a loan from the Bristol & West an attractive proposition, especially as other lenders are withdrawing their cashback sweeteners to new borrowers, the reality can be quite different, as two readers of *The Times* discovered.

Prospective borrowers are experiencing enormous delays in getting mortgages arranged. So bad is the problem that the society has set up an emergency helpline for its branches to check the progress of its clients' applications.

Patrick Bunton, of London & Country, a mortgage broker based in Bath, says: "Bristol & West are swamped. They simply weren't geared up for the upturn in the market. It has happened to other societies like the Stroud & Swindon, National Counties and Birmingham Midshires, but never on this scale. There is a nine-week backlog. We would expect to get an offer within three weeks. Once it goes over a month it is taking too long."

Samantha McMahon and Nick Rhodes, first-time buyers, had set their heart on a £37,000 four-bedroom cottage in Huddersfield.

They applied to Bristol & West for a £35,000 mortgage, 95 per cent of the property's value. But the offer for the five-year 7.35 per cent fixed-rate loan took two months to arrive.

"The delay has been very disruptive. Moving is stressful anyway and Bristol and West have only added to it," says Ms McMahon 24, a desktop publisher.

"They kept saying our case was marked urgent and yet they still took two months. The woman we are buying from is also waiting to move and we were worried that we might lose the house."

When the mortgage offer finally arrived it was not what the couple had hoped for. Bristol and West insisted that the £275 arrangement fee and the £555 premium on the indemnity guarantee insurance that covers the lender against default had to be paid up front and could not be added to the loan.

The couple turned instead to the Leeds branch of the Cheltenham & Gloucester, which made an offer of a 6.95 per cent variable rate mortgage in less than a week.

Bristol and West acknowledged that it was having problems. A spokeswoman said: "We do accept that there has been a delay in our service due to exceptional demand caused by having a market-leading mortgage product range and the upsurge in the housing market. This has stretched our underwriting and processing capacity and we are striving to maintain levels of service by applying additional resources."

HOW LONG SHOULD AN APPLICATION TAKE?

NO GUIDANCE is on offer from the Building Societies Association. "It will take as long as it takes," a spokeswoman says. "It depends on different lenders' criteria and on individual circumstances." The Halifax, however, reckons, on average, one should get a mortgage offer within two to four weeks. Cheltenham & Gloucester, which made an offer to Samantha McMahon and Nick Rhodes in less than a week, aims to have an offer on the table within ten days, "but in the majority of cases we can better that", a spokeswoman says. Local branches are the contact point, but most lenders will process applications centrally, carrying out credit checks, instructing valuers and so on. In terms of getting a mortgage offer, you need to build time in for the interview, when you should take along as much evidence as possible about your income and employer's details. You will also need to decide the type of mortgage you wish to take out, whether repayment, endowment or interest only. Then there is the lender's valuation of the property, and the time needed for the report. You may also want to carry out your own survey. Thirdly, the lender has to check your employment and credit details.

Somerfield sellers bank their profits

Shares in the £435 million Somerfield float were good to buy, but even better to sell, according to some stockbrokers.

Somerfield, the supermarket chain predominant in the North and known in the South for its Gateway stores, floated on the Stock Exchange yesterday.

The float attracted much controversy as Kleinwort Benson, the advising investment bank, lowered the share price from 160p to 145p to ensure the success of the new issue.

Most private investors registered their interest two weeks ago when each share cost 145p. Yesterday the market opened at 160p, which meant a reasonable profit for those selling immediately.

John Horton, stock adviser with Chamberlain de Broe, a fee-based independent adviser, told clients to sell. "Our clients had their fun, banked the profit and are off to better things."

He says the shares are not good ones to hold on to because the Government and local authorities are tightening up on out-of-town centres, sparking a trend for smaller stores in the high street.

Some investors are attracted to Somerfield because it has a high yield — 7 per cent. However, Mr Horton wonders whether this sort of yield may eat into capital.

JODY BRETTKELLY

Correction

In an article in Weekend Money on August 3 ("Debt worries haunt the middle classes") it was stated that bankruptcy costs £46 for those on benefit. The full fee of £282 is, however, payable by everyone, even those on benefits.

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Accordingly Student Loans Company Limited **HEREBY GIVES NOTICE** that with effect from 1 September 1996 the **RATE OF INTEREST** under all such Loan Agreements is varied (in respect of the period from 1 September 1996) by being **REDUCED** from the present interest rate of 0.009438571% per day **TO THE NEW INTEREST RATE** of 0.007307268% per day (variable; **APR 2.7%**).

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Sara McConnell urges caution on any delay in contributions to a retirement plan

Will the State still pay you when you're 65?

PENSIONS
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POSTBAG

Children used to worry about their parents getting old and living in poverty. Now it is the other way round. Parents read about the shrinking welfare state and advise on the importance of pension provision with scarcely concealed anxiety if the advice falls on deaf ears.

Unfortunately, parents are almost certainly right to be worried. When their 30 and 40-year-old children reach retirement, the state pension will be even smaller than it is now. The policy of persuading people to make more private provision for their retirement through company or personal pensions now has all-party support. But the difficultly is to get people to act.

One worried father, who wanted to remain anonymous, writes: "I am trying to convince my son that he should make provision for his future now, before it is too late. He is a 43-year-old bachelor, has been in full-time employment since leaving school, but has never joined a company pension scheme. He has been with his present company for ten years. I think he earns about £20,000 a year and has a few tens of thousands in a building society, so obviously he should be doing something. He has a small repayment mortgage on his house, by today's standards, but no other borrowings. Without a wife and family he doesn't have the same incentive to provide for his future. What I want to do is give him some hard facts to show how much he is losing to tax, what he can expect to receive from the State at 65 and compare these with the current tax and future pension benefit he would get from starting to make contributions now both to his company scheme and as AVCs."

Dr Who may be able to deal with a time warp but can you?

Weekend Money replies: Hard facts are difficult to come by with pensions because any predictions are based on assumptions of what may happen to inflation, interest rates, investment performance and tax rules. All these affect potential pension payouts. The future of state pensions is even more difficult to predict because they are so politically contentious.

But it is almost certain that contributions to a private pension scheme over a reasonable length of time will produce better benefits than relying on the State. The current maximum basic state pension is £61.15 a week for a single person. Since 1978, those earning more than a set lower limit have also been able to build up a state earnings related pension (Serps) calculated on a percentage of earnings between the lower limit (currently £61) and an upper limit (currently £455). The scheme has become successively less generous as the Government tries to phase it out. On your son's present salary, he will have earned £168.28 in Serps this year. This will be revalued each year, along with his earnings for other years.

> ‘More than a fifth of his salary must be put aside for an acceptable pension’

By not starting a private pension, your son is losing out on valuable tax breaks. Those contributing to a company or personal pension will get tax relief at their highest rate (in your son's case, 24 per cent). The exact amount of the relief depends on how much he puts in. The investment will grow free of tax in the pension fund. At retirement, part of the pension fund can be taken as a tax-free lump sum.

Unfortunately, because your son has delayed so long, he will need to put more than a fifth of his monthly salary aside just to build up an acceptable pension (measured as 1/60th of salary for each working year) over the 22 years until he retires, according to Bacon & Woodrow, the actuaries. But he has left it too late to achieve the ideal comfortable pension of two-thirds final salary. He will almost certainly never be able to recoup the years he has lost because he would have to contribute nearly one third of his monthly salary, more than the Revenue allows him to.

He can choose between joining his employer's scheme and taking out a personal pension. But he needs the extra contributions from his employer to push up his total. In most occupational schemes, employers will make generous contributions, often double those of the employee. The employee can top up his pension fund by making additional voluntary contributions (AVCs). Revenue limits on contributions do not include the employer's contribution. Your son actually needs to contribute 22 per cent of his salary a year from now on. But the Revenue will allow him to put only 15 per cent of his salary into pensions and AVCs. His only hope is that his employer will contribute the remainder. Most good schemes should do this. If his scheme is non-contributory, he may have to put in less himself towards the 22 per cent total.

If he takes out a personal pension, he is only allowed to put in 20 per cent of his salary at 43. But these age limits rise and after 45 he can put in up to 25 per cent. The problem with personal pensions is that charges can be high and he will almost certainly get no help from his employer.

These calculations assume an investment return 4 per cent above inflation and salary increases 2 per cent above inflation. They also assume tax rules stay the same. All these predictions may be confounded.

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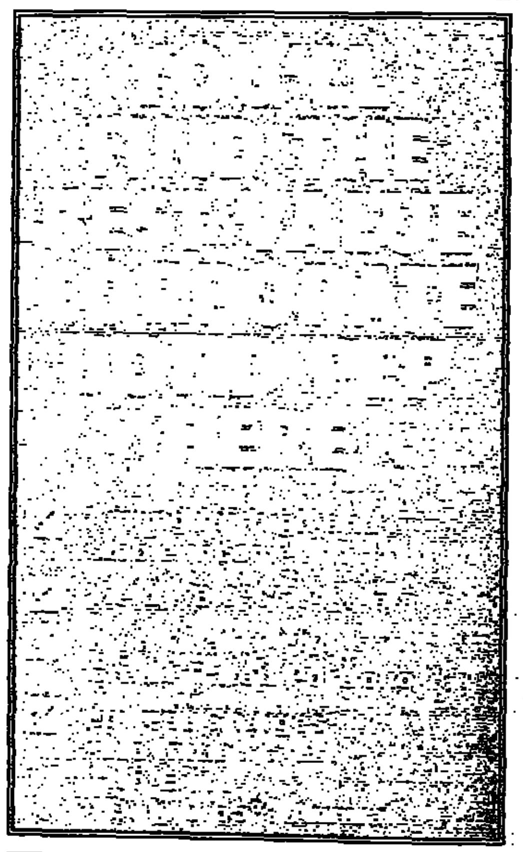
*These figures are correct at the time of going to press. The guarantee on the Guaranteed Investment Fund applies on the fifth anniversary only, otherwise the value of the fund can fall as well as rise, and you may not get back the amount you originally invested. If you cash in your Guaranteed Growth Plus Bond before the end of the 5½ year term, you could get back less than you originally invested. The NatWest Guaranteed Growth Plus Bond and the Guaranteed Investment Fund are provided by National Westminster Life Assurance Limited, a subsidiary company of National Westminster Bank Plc. National Westminster Life Assurance Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for investment business. National Westminster Bank Plc and Ulster Bank Limited are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO and are members of the NatWest Life and NatWest Unit Trust Marketing Group, and can advise on the life assurance, pensions and unit trust products only of that Marketing Group. Issued by National Westminster Bank Plc. Registered in England No. 929027. Registered Office: 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP Ref No 30314



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*Estimated gross running/redemption yields, as at 16.7.96, both of which are net of annual management charge and tax-free in a PEP (equivalent to over 12% gross for a 40% tax payer). **An "AA" rating is defined as meaning "a fund which provides very strong protection against losses from credit default". The value of this investment and the income from it may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Also, deduction of charges and expenses means you may not get back the amount you invested. Tax benefits detailed are those currently applicable and will vary from one investor to another and may change in the future. Issued by Guinness Flight Fund Managers Limited, regulated by IMRO.

هكذا من الاجانب

Crystal ball time for investors

Robert Miller looks at the prospects for shareholders in embattled Kepit

With the benefit of 20-20 hindsight, investors who piled into Kleinwort Benson's £500 million European Privatisation Investment Trust — known as Kepit — might have held off from buying at the very top of the market.

If they had waited just one more month to March 1994, for example, they would have fared better with Mercury's similar sized offering called Mepit (Mercury European Privatisation Investment Trust).

What Kepit's followers are most in need of now, however, is a crystal ball. When the forests have been raided to supply the mountains of paperwork that accompany bids they will have the difficult enough task of assessing the ambitious offer from Henderson Touche Remnant's European Growth Investment Trust (Treg). They will also have to consider Kleinwort's own plan to turn Kepit into a unit trust as well as weighing up the seven or eight other counter-bids that have been mooted.

For the proud house of Kleinwort the bid for Kepit by a comparative tiddler is an embarrassment, but it highlights what is happening in the investment trust sector as a whole. The name of the game is narrowing the discount. This is not confined to investment trusts, but extends to other vehicles such as closed-end offshore companies or funds. Hence we saw Regent Holdings' move on GT Chile earlier in the year and there is the ongoing bid by Peregrine, the UK arm of the eponymous Hong Kong securities house, for the Malaysia Equity Fund. In each case, the shares of the trust or fund concerned have been trading at a considerable discount to the net asset value (NAV) of the investments in the underlying portfolio.

Narrowing the discount is not a new game. It was last played on any scale in the late Eighties when poor performing trusts, including a number run by TR, now the aggressor, were the target of hostile bids. The bids, then as now, are about opportunism. Put another way: the weak, the vulnerable and the poor performers get taken out. Sometimes to the benefit of investors, but not always.

The concerns voiced by managers about investors' interests on these occasions should be counter-balanced by the fact that those same voices stand to earn millions of pounds in fees and that growing the size of funds under management, which generate big annual fees, is a survival issue for many City houses. Even the managers on the losing side can come away with handsome compensation. That Kleinwort, which was as surprised as anyone when it pulled in so much money — it had been expecting about £50 million to £100 million — needed a tug and a more flexible investment policy is beyond dispute.

The trust's board of directors must now consider the Treg proposal against the other alternatives. They will argue against Treg's plan to liquidate the assets on the ground that it is a costly option. Nor will selling the shares in Kepit's portfolio be easy since market traders will be out in force looking for bargains to add to their portfolios. Euro investment fans are buying on a two to three-year outlook.

If Kepit shareholders were to take the Treg option then they might use the benchmark of the current case of Fairbairn's European Smaller Companies Index Investment Trust. Investors are being offered 98 per cent of the NAV of the investments or the alternative of switching their money into a unit trust run by Old Mutual, a South African life office.

While Kepit's investors are sifting through the various alternatives, the current round of bids in the sector offers the prospect of profits for those who spot the next potential target for the predators. Hamish Buchan, a director of NatWest Securities and an investment trust analyst, points out that the sector pulled in a net £1.5 billion of new money in the first six months of this year. He says: "The investment trust sector is a service industry. It is the survival of the fittest and those that fail to deliver the goods may disappear. That is no bad thing."

However, not every poor performer or discounted trust will be a target. The shares in many portfolios will be hard to sell at anywhere near face value and many of the markets such as those of Eastern Europe and themes such as venture capital are highly illiquid. Unscrambling the warrants that were issued free with almost every new trust launch will also be complex and costly.

For Kepit investors the choices probably boil down to taking the money, and that could well mean less than was put in, allowing Kleinwort to unitise the trust and hope it has learnt its lesson, or switching to a trust run by a different management house. Whatever course is adopted it will not alter the fact that every pound paid to advisers means £1 less for shareholders.

Additional research by Oliver Burkeman

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RENAULT
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Racing

The European privatisation dream included the French Government's high-profile sell-offs of Renault and Elf

Biggest bond on the block

Sarah Jones on a product that offers 10.6% a year

HIT OR MISS

Desperate to be the biggest kid on the block, Financial Assurance has come up with a high-income bond that, yet again, offers the best yield. In May, Financial Assurance, part of America's GE Capital, launched a bond offering 10.25 per cent a year. In June, Scottish Mutual issued a bond at 10.5 per cent. It closed yesterday, taking £200 million. Now Financial Assurance is launching a version which, with a promised income of 10.6 per cent a year, is "the highest-ever fixed rate for bonds".

There is no denying that this is a good rate, especially compared with similar products recently launched by several banks, but you have to understand the nature of high-income bonds to calculate the risk that you will be taking.

With all investment bonds, you give a lump sum to the bond provider, typically a life assurance company, which invests your money, together with that of other investors, in stocks and shares and government securities. With an income bond, you invest a lump sum and in return receive a relatively high rate of income.

The problem traditionally with such bonds is that the provider may use some of your capital to keep up the level of income payments and you may not get all your capital back. In addition, your money will be tied up for a set period. Now income bonds come with the guarantee that no stock market growth is required for the return of the capital. However, it is still the case that if the market falls then the capital will be less than your original investment. Most analysts say the stock market will not fall over a five-year period, but there is no guarantee and that is the risk you take.

Financial Assurance's new high-income bond gives a guaranteed return of 10.6 per cent a year, 0.84 per cent a month or 67 per cent at the end of the five-year term if the income is rolled up, all net of basic rate tax. You get back the original capital in addition to the income or growth provided neither the FT-SE 100 index nor the S&P 500 index falls. Minimum investment is £7,500. Financial Assurance's last bond took £109 million.

John Horton, of Chamberlain de Broë, the independent financial adviser, says: "Normally, we would say if you are interested in this sort of investment, why not go directly into equities and get potentially better returns? But, in this case, the guaranteed return is high enough to make it an attractive option for investors."

Both Scottish Mutual and Financial Assurance offer their products only through independent financial advisers, which partly explains why they need to, and can afford to, offer a better rate than the high street banks. Lloyds Bank's Black Horse Life and the Royal Bank of Scotland's Royal Scottish Assurance have both issued bonds paying 8 per cent a year. At least the minimum investment is also lower than Financial Assurance, at £2,000 and £5,000 respectively.

The return from bonds is paid after the deduction of basic rate income tax, which cannot be reclaimed if you are a non-taxpayer. If you are a higher rate taxpayer there will be an additional charge.

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Halifax revamps current account

AN UPGRADED version of the Halifax's Maxim Current Account — renamed the Halifax Current Account — will be launched on August 28. Customers will benefit from a range of improvements including no monthly charges for short-term overdrafts, no charges for cash machine withdrawals, a £100 interest-free overdraft facility for account holders who have their salary or regular credit paid in automatically, and a 60-day charge-free period for those transferring accounts. Current account transactions may also be made using Halifax Direct, the building society's 24-hour telephone banking service.

☐ If you are travelling by car in France or Spain this summer, Switch debit cards may now be used to pay for petrol at motorway service stations. More than 100 Total petrol stations on French motorways and 70 petrol stations along the A7 in Spain are now open to Switch-Maestro cardholders. Maestro is available to customers with Switch cards issued by Royal Bank of Scotland, National Westminster Bank, Midland Bank and First Direct.

☐ Seven million Barclays Connect and Barclaybank cardholders may now withdraw up to £300 a day from cash machines provided sufficient cleared funds, or an agreed overdraft, are available in their accounts. The increase from £200 to £300 a day also applies to holders of the Barclays Eurocheque cash card. This may be used to withdraw local currency from more than 120,000 cash machines in 30 European countries. Barclays Information Line: 0800 400100.

☐ A personal tax organiser has been devised by Hereward Philips, the chartered accountant, to help taxpayers to plan and complete an accurate return for the 1996-97 tax year. The organiser indicates what receipts and vouchers must be kept, how they should be filed and how long they should be retained, and lists dates for payment of tax liability. A 25-page guide to self-assessment is included. The organiser costs £22. To obtain a copy, telephone 0181-446 4371.

LIZANNE ROSE

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Frst Cls Accs	Postal	£1,000	4.90	Yly
Alliance & Leic BS 0645 645660	Instnt Direct	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Access Postal	Postal	£10,000	5.85	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Access Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.05	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Chelsea BS 0800 132351	POST-tel 20 day	20 day p	£5,000	6.05	Yly
Cheltenham & Glos 0800 717505	Direct 30	30 day p	£100	5.50	Yly
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	*Mutual Interest*	*1 yr bnd*	£1,000	6.25	Yly
Cheshire BS 0800 243278	Fxd Rate Bond	31.12.98	£5,000	6.75	F/Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fxd Rate	5 year	£8,575	7.50	F/Yly
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	Fxd Rate	5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Yly
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721		5 year	£1,000	7.00	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.00	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.90%C	11.20%	Nil
People's Bank Connecticut 0500551055	MasterCard/Visa	1.13%	14.40%	Nil
Frizzell Bank 0800 373191	MasterCard/Visa	1.17%	16.10%	£11

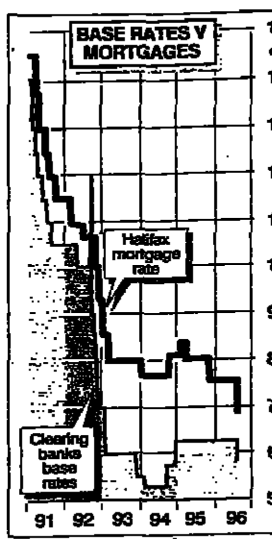
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

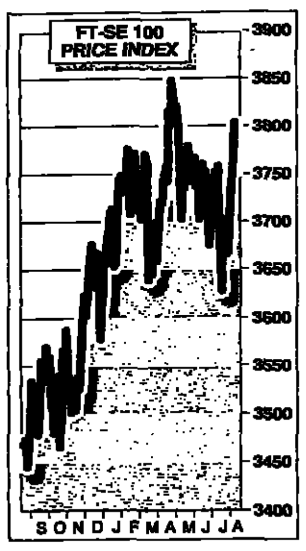
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Direct Line 0141 248 9966	13.90%E	£112.86	£101.33
Midland 0800 180180	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49
Northern Rock BS 0345 421421	14.90%	£115.47	£102.59

Nb. C = no interest free period, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum Investmnt £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*[5]	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**[7]	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*[6]	6.25	5.00	3.75	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond[4]	6.00	4.80	3.60	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
43rd Issue Cert†[2]	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51				-	0645 645000
Capital Bonds[6]	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
9th Index Linked†[3]	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3[6]	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000[5]	60day	0645 645000

[1] first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 [2] Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble [3] Guaranteed when held for 5 years [4] 0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ [5] £100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings [6] Taxable but cred in full [7] £500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply.

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential ....Level	£10,467	£11,495	£12,893
Generali ....Level	£10,359	£11,382	£12,717
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£10,255	£11,285	£12,693
Norwich Un ....Level	£10,261	£11,221	£12,553
Stalwart * ....Level	£10,173	£11,215	£12,313

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,722	£10,458	£11,549
Prudential ....Level	£9,710	£10,443	£11,528
Generali ....Level	£9,469	£10,308	£11,474
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,526	£10,252	£11,330
Stalwart * ....Level	£9,267	£10,159	£11,129

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Prudential ....Level	£9,323	£9,895	£10,708
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,301	£9,847	£10,637
Generali ....Level	£9,234	£9,844	£10,689
Stalwart * ....Level	£9,158	£9,837	£10,609
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,159	£9,720	£10,526

* Maximum purchase £100,000. Higher rates for smokers.
Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Compiled by: Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at August 8, 1996

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	AIG Life	4.75
	10,000	AIG Life	4.85
	20,000	AIG Life	4.90
	50,000	AIG Life	5.05
2 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.10
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	5.55
	20,000	AIG Life	5.60
	50,000	AIG Life	5.70
3 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.65
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	5.90
	20,000	AIG Life	5.93
	50,000	AIG Life	6.03
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.95
	3,000	ITT Lon & Edin	6.20
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.40
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.50
	50,000	Abbey Life	6.70

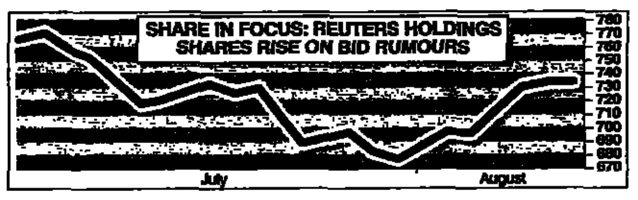
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	101.78	9.206	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	122.27	9.508	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	136.69	9.511	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	142.21	9.405	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	136.50	9.524	100.42	1,000
Coventry	*12.125%*	*128.48*	*9.418*	*100.75*	*1,000*
First National	11.750%	120.07	9.786	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	94.83	9.227	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	126.15	9.218	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	146.11	9.325	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	142.47	9.388	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	117.87	9.104	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	137.36	9.191	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	137.74	9.166	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	136.88	9.406	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (28/09-21/03)	8.58750%	*104.63*	*100.00*	*1,000*
First National	8.70625%	101.13	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 608088	0.95	£15k+	90	Fixd to 30.6.97
Northern Rock 0800 591500	0.99	£100-150k	75	High Equity Dsc of 6% to 1.8.97
Alliance & Leic 0181 742 0471	1.39	£200-300k	75	Disc of 5.6% until 1.8.97
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25 disc for 6 mths, 3%-6 mths
Bank of Scotland 0131 243 5740	1.99	any	75	5% discount for 5 months

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.50	to £150k	70	Super fix rate for 12 months
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	0.20	to £150k	70	Fixed for 1 yr
Mansfield 01246 202055	0.39	£75-125k	90	6.35% disc-6mth 2%-6mth, 1%-1yr
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Royal Bank of Scot 0131 243 5740	1.99	any	75	5% discount for 5 months

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 608088	0.95	to £15k+	95	6.04% disc 6 mnth then 2% disc-6mth
Skipton 01756 700500	0.84	£25-250k	95	6.09% disc 5 mths 0.84% disc 12 mth
Lambeth 0171 928 1331	3.74	£15-150k	95	3.25% disc for 12 months.
Banks				
Bankofireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
Barclays Bank 0800 000929	3.24	£15-500k	95	3.75% disc for 12 months.

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LIFE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8880				
Balanced	527.10	557.80	+ 5.90	...
UK Equity	676.30	715.70	+ 8.10	...
Property	531.00	562.00	- 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	363.30	384.50	+ 2.40	...
Money	266.50	282.10	+ 0.20	...
International	441.00	466.70	+ 8.10	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Custodian S4	192.90	203.10	+ 0.70	...
Ethical S4	158.50	166.90	+ 2.80	...
International S4	221.60	233.30	+ 0.90	...
Protected Gth S4	123	129.50	...	0
Asian Pacific	207.30	218.30	- 0.30	...
European S4	209.70	220.80	+ 0.60	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	388	408.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Ser 4	262.20	276.10	+ 4.10	...
Man Ser 4	768.70	809.20	+ 5.80	...
Conv Ser 4	349.90	368.40	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	349.60	368.00	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	380.90	401.00	+ 1.40	...
American Ser 4	630.80	664.10	+10.40	...
High Inc Ser 4	798.20	840.30	+10.90	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	226.70	238.70	+ 1.10	...
Japan Ser 4	353.40	372.10	-11.00	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1885.60	1984.80	+38.80	...
European Fd Acc	468.60	493.20	+10.00	...
Fixed Int Acc	554.10	583.20	+ 2.80	...
Gtd Money Acc	356.40	375.10	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	746.40	785.70	+18.70	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	372.60	392.20	+ 1.90	...
Japan Fund	263.40	277.30	- 4.70	...
N American Acc	416.50	438.30	+16.40	...
Prop Fd Acc	467.60	492.20	+ 0.60	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1208.10	1271.60	+18.30	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	399.20	420.30	+ 0.30	...
Equity Acc	1676.30	1764.60	+10.90	...
Property Acc	633.60	667.00	+ 0.30	...
Far East Acc	340.10	358.00	- 1.60	...
Managed Capital	606.00	637.90	+ 3.10	...
-do- Acc	1280.50	1347.90	+ 6.90	...
Overseas Acc	*1138.50*	*1198.50*	*+ 7.70*	...
Gilt Edged Acc	539.60	568.00	+ 1.30	...
Amer Equity Acc	1042.70	1097.60	+18.30	...
Amer Man Acc	439.50	462.70	+ 7.00	...
Amer Prop Acc	119.90	126.30	- 0.50	...
Distribution Bonds	25.20	26.60	+ 0.10	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	175.00	184.20	+ 0.30	...
Balcd Ser 6	833.50	877.30	+ 4.40	...
Opportunity Ser 6	191.90	201.90	+ 0.40	...
Distribution Ser 6	104.70	110.20	+ 0.00	6.90
UK Equities Ser 6	1182.10	1244.30	+16.90	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	1212.40	1276.20	+20.70	...
North Amer Ser 6	598.50	629.90	+ 8.20	...
Far East Ser 6	603.40	635.10	- 7.30	...
Europe Ser 6	471.90	496.70	- 0.50	...
Intnl Ser 6	678.30	714.00	+ 1.80	...
Property Ser 6	591.80	622.90	+ 0.50	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	487.50	513.10	+ 1.20	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	195.50	205.70	+ 0.80	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	317.70	334.40	+ 0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	1018.90	1072.60	+14.80	...
-do- Initial	634.80	668.30	+ 9.20	...
Gilt Edged Acc	425.60	448.10	+ 2.10	...
-do- Initial	267.60	281.70	+ 1.30	...
International Acc	459.30	483.50	- 1.20	...
-do- Initial	286.90	302.00	- 0.70	...
Managed Acc	612.30	644.60	+ 4.40	...
-do- Initial	383.80	404.00	+ 2.80	...
Money Acc	310.50	326.90	+ 0.20	...
Property Acc	312.00	328.50	- 0.30	...
-do- Initial	194.40	204.70	...	...
America Acc	362.40	381.50	+ 6.80	...
Australia Acc	241.70	254.50	+ 1.10	...
Financial Acc	445.10	468.60	+ 6.80	...
500 Accum	522.00	549.50	+ 6.70	...
Japan Genl Acc	296.00	311.60	-11.30	...
Income Acc	606.50	638.50	+ 6.70	...
Leisure Acc	322.00	339.00	+ 5.80	...
Special Sits Acc	306.70	322.90	+ 5.40	...
Univ Tech Acc	184.50	194.30	+ 0.10	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	932.24	932.24	+ 7.23	...
Income Fund	874.64	920.68	+13.39	...
Extra Income	794.18	835.98	+12.49	...
Worldwide Gth	557.09	586.42	+12.88	...
Balanced Fund	785.65	827	+12.32	...
Smllr Cos Recov	£10.16	£10.69	+13.89	...
N Amer & Genl	449.61	473.28	+19.50	...
Pacific Basin	445.24	468.68	+ 8.81	...
German Growth	261.17	274.92	+ 4.73	...
Japan Growth	189.79	199.78	- 3.05	...
The UK Gth Fd	254.07	267.45	+ 4.46	...
Contl Euro Gth	167.78	176.62	- 2.58	...
Property Fund	417.59	439.57	- 0.29	...
Fixed Interest	354.27	372.92	+ 1.94	...
Cash Fund	301.99	317.87	+ 0.22	...
Managed Inv	557.58	587.35	+ 4.57	...
Nth Amer Recov	327.49	344.73	+19.62	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	541.08	569.56	+ 2.19	...
BRITANNIA 50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR 0141 248 2000				
Measured Perf	196.60	208.10	+ 1.90	...
Performance Plus	222.30	235.20	+ 1.60	...
With Profit Perf	184.60	195.30	+ 0.30	...
UK Opportunity	233.30	246.80	+ 3.50	...
Euro Opportunity	271.10	285.80	+ 3.00	...
North Amer Opp	218.00	230.70	+ 4.90	...
Far East Opp	219.20	231.90	+ 2.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	168.00	176.80	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	204.60	216.50	- 1.10	...
Fixed Int	223.90	236.90	+ 1.30	...
Cash	169.10	178.80	+ 0.10	6.49
Overseas	256.20	271.10	+ 1.80	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	411.90	433.60	+ 3.90	...
UK Equity	705.80	743.00	+10.50	...
Property	282.40	297.30	- 1.50	...
Money Market	267.90	282.00	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	325.30	342.50	+ 2.00	...
Japan	356.90	375.70	-12.30	...
North America	194.00	204.30	+ 4.40	...
International	395.90	416.80	+ 2.80	...
European	346.70	365.00	+ 3.80	...
Far East	162.30	170.90	+ 1.50	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth ‡	282.80	...	+ 5.00	...
Managed	389.10	409.60	+ 4.10	...
Property	254.00	267.40	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	265.70	279.70	+ 0.90	...
Equity	453.90	477.80	+ 7.00	...
Cash	228.60	240.70	+ 0.10	...
CLife Euro Mgd	448.80	472.50	+ 2.00	...
CLife Intl Fd	402.30	423.50	+ 3.40	...
Managed Fund	834.40	878.30	+13.90	...
Property Fund	548.20	577.00	+ 0.60	...
Equity Fund	1103.40	1161.50	+23.40	...
Gilt Edged Fd	676.70	712.30	+ 2.40	...
Deposit Fund	353.90	372.50	+ 0.30	...
Investment Fd	485.50	509.80	+11.60	...
International	625.50	658.40	+ 4.50	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	167.00	175.80	...	...
Managed Fund	729.50	767.90	+10.40	...
Equity Fund	428.80	451.40	+ 7.70	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	334.30	352.00	+ 1.00	...
Ruby	201.50	212.20	- 1.10	...
Emerald	156.20	164.50	+ 0.90	...
Equity	387.80	408.30	+ 5.80	...
Property	236.70	249.20	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	224.30	236.20	+ 0.70	...
Indexed Secs	180.40	189.90	+ 1.10	...
Cash	200.50	211.10	+ 0.20	...
Nth American	286.90	302.10	- 3.20	...
Far East	352.80	371.40	- 6.20	...
International	277.10	291.70	- 1.60	...
Special Sits	437.60	460.70	- 1.80	...
Intl Income	344.40	362.60	+ 4.60	...
American Inc	244.80	257.70	+ 2.30	...
European	395.50	416.40	- 1.90	...
Japanese	140.80	148.30	- 4.10	...
SE Asia	400.20	421.30	- 2.20	...
With Profits Reg	182.80	192.50	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	182.80	192.50	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	389.60	410.20	+ 2.90	...
Equity	477.30	502.50	+ 8.20	...
Property	218.80	230.40	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	288.40	303.60	+ 1.00	...
Index Linked	192.30	202.50	+ 1.30	...
Cash	274.00	288.50	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	357.90	376.80	+ 6.80	...
Far East Acc	335.00	352.70	- 5.90	...
International Acc	351.60	370.20	- 1.30	...
Special Sits	658.60	693.30	+ 6.20	...
European Flex	572.00	602.20	+ 0.40	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Units): Key ‡	279.70	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker ‡	354.87	...		
-do- Cash	215.17	226.49	+ 0.13	...
-do- Equity	636.57	670.07	+ 6.44	...
-do- Fxd Int	392.44	413.09	+ 1.52	...
-do- Managed	455.85	479.84	+ 6.17	...
-do- Property	314.99	331.57	+ 3.02	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	214.03	225.30	+ 0.04	...
-do- Cash Inv	332.31	349.81	+ 0.29	...
-do- Equity Cap	£16.57	£17.45	+26.29	...
-do- Equity Inv	£25.74	£27.09	+39.51	...
-do- Fixed Cap	424.05	446.37	+ 1.94	...
-do- Fixed Inv	658.40	693.05	+ 3.48	...
-do- Index Cap	207.33	218.26	+ 1.33	...
-do- Index Inv	321.92	338.87	+ 2.29	...
-do- Mngd Cap	661.00	695.80	+ 8.41	...
-do- Mngd Inv	£10.26	£10.80	+13.76	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5) ‡	849.00	...	...	...
Var Ann (5) ‡	103.44	...	...	...
Prime: Managed	464.90	489.40	+ 2.40	...
Prime: UK Equity	579.80	610.40	+ 7.20	...
Prime: Int Equity	336.40	354.20	- 1.90	...
Prime: Property	249.60	262.80	+ 0.20	...
Prime: Fxd Int	255.30	268.80	- 0.10	...
Prime Index-Lnk	181.40	191.00	+ 0.80	...
Prime: Cash	218.60	230.20	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744840				
Managed Fund	1249.30	1315.00	- 4.00	...
Equity II	1814.10	1909.50	- 1.50	...
For Crown see Windsor				
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham, GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311				
Life Funds				
Ut Wth Pfts (586) ‡	107.30	...	+ 0.10	...
Secure (2) ‡	104.30	...	- 0.20	...
Managed (3) ‡	112.40	...	+ 0.60	...
Equity Mngd (3) ‡	112.30	...	+ 0.70	...
Adventurous (3) ‡	108.10	...	- 0.40	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	105.60	...	+ 0.10	...
Equity Mgd S1	279.00	293.70	+ 1.60	...
Managed S1	278.40	293.10	+ 1.50	...
Adventurous S1	228.30	240.40	- 0.90	...
Managed (2)	186.10	195.90	+ 1.00	...
Pension Funds				
Unit With Pfts (5) ‡	105.60	...	+ 0.20	...
Secure (2) ‡	103.80	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (2) ‡	108.40	...	+ 0.70	...
Equity Mngd (2) ‡	109.30	...	+ 0.80	...
Adventurous (2) ‡	105.60	...	- 0.40	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	104.60	...	+ 0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	339.10	351.30	+ 5.30	0.01
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed	359.00	377.90	- 3.20	...
UK Equity	488.20	513.90	+ 7.40	...
Stewardship	432.20	455.00	+ 7.00	...
Overseas Equity	335.60	353.30	+ 0.30	...
North American	193.50	203.70	+ 2.40	...
Pacific Basin	180.60	190.20	- 0.90	...
European	294.80	310.40	+ 1.50	...
Property	183.10	192.80	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	262.50	276.40	+ 1.10	...
Index Linked	180.50	190.10	+ 0.90	...
Cash	214.30	225.60	+ 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	593.90	625.10	+ 5.80	...
Managed	803.10	845.30	+ 6.20	...
Deposit	365.40	384.60	+ 0.30	...
Property	515.50	542.60	+ 0.60	...
American	531.80	559.70	+ 6.30	...
Australian	626.40	659.30	+ 4.00	...
European	702.10	739.00	+ 2.40	...
Income Acc	875.60	921.80	+10.30	...
-do- Dist	485.50	511.00	+ 8.20	5.12
International	359.10	378.00	...	...
Japan Smaller	463.60	488.00	-16.20	...
Singapore & Mal	419.60	441.60	+ 2.20	...
Smaller Cos	489.60	515.30	+ 5.60	...
Tokyo Fund	656.40	690.90	-17.60	...
UK Equity	673.30	708.70	+ 7.90	...
CCM Vangd Mg	872.00	917.90	+ 9.50	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	330.90	348.40	- 1.80	...
GT Plan Wwide	568.20	598.20	- 2.50	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	780.70	780.70	+ 2.30	...
-do- Inv 4	780.60	821.80	+ 2.40	...
UK Equity	474.90	500.00	+ 3.50	...
Gilt Plus	221.70	233.50	+ 0.50	...
Managed	351.70	370.30	+ 1.10	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	242.00	254.60	+ 1.60	...
Unitised Profit	153.90	162.00	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	342.60	360.50	+ 4.30	...
Fixed Int	211.90	223.00	+ 0.90	...
Index-Linked	176.50	185.70	+ 1.00	...
Cash Deposit	185.20	194.80	+ 0.10	...
Property	182.80	192.30	+ 0.20	...
International	195.70	205.90	+ 0.30	...
American	206.50	217.20	+ 2.70	...
Japan	233.20	245.40	- 6.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	238.80	251.30	- 6.70	...
European	215.00	226.20	+ 0.10	...
Pacific Fund	303.70	319.60	+ 2.40	...
Conv Life	146.70	154.30	+ 1.30	...
Formerly Provident Mutual				
Managed Ord	551.90	580.90	+ 3.70	...
Managed Initial	352.40	370.90	+ 2.20	...
Equity Ord	865.30	910.80	+10.90	...
Equity Init	552.50	581.60	+ 6.70	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	215.00	226.30	+ 1.20	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	143.40	150.90	+ 0.70	...
Oseas Equity Ord	435.10	458.00	- 0.90	...
Oseas Equity Init	277.90	292.40	- 0.90	...
Property Ord	280.40	295.20	+ 0.50	...
Property Init	179.00	188.40	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Int Ord	309.60	325.90	+ 1.30	...
Fixed Int Init	197.70	208.10	+ 0.70	...
Deposit Ord	220.50	232.10	+ 0.10	...
Deposit Initial	140.80	148.20	...	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	854.30	899.90	...	...
Managed Initial	530.40	558.30	+ 3.60	...
-do- Acc	785.40	826.70	+ 5.20	...
Equity Initial	827.70	871.30	+11.80	...
-do- Acc	1225.20	1290.20	+18.00	...
Fixed Int Initial	459.40	483.60	+ 1.30	...
-do- Acc	680.30	716.10	+ 2.10	...
Intl Initial	513.22	540.20	- 1.10	...
-do- Acc	760	800	- 1.20	...
Nth Amer Initial	239	251.60	+ 4.00	...
-do- Acc	322.10	339.10	+ 5.50	...
Pacific Initial	240.90	253.60	- 3.10	...
-do- Acc	321.60	338.50	- 4.60	...
Property Initial	180.60	190.10	...	...
-do- Acc	267.30	281.30	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	164.80	173.40	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	222	233.70	+ 1.40	...
Deposit Initial	204	214.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	302.10	318	+ 0.30	...
Euro Initial	121.50	128	- 0.40	...
-do- Acc	153.90	162	- 0.30	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 285, York YO1 1YW 01904 611000				
Life Funds				
Foundation	29.45	31.00	+ 0.34	...
Balanced	29.64	31.20	+ 0.17	...
Opportunity	30.42	32.02	+ 0.25	...
Deposit	25.19	26.52	+ 0.03	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	30.56	32.16	+ 0.42	...
Balanced	30.30	31.89	+ 0.37	...
Opportunity	31.37	33.02	+ 0.49	...
Deposit	25.73	27.08	+ 0.03	...
HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 840000				
Managed	196.50	206.80	+ 2.90	...
-do- Pens	249.20	262.30	+ 4.60	...
UK Equity	206.20	217.00	+ 3.80	...
-do- Pens	244.50	257.30	+ 5.70	...
International	170.50	179.40	+ 3.60	...
-do- Pens	189.00	198.90	+ 4.60	...
Deposit	147.90	155.60	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	178.70	188.10	+ 0.20	...
For Henderson see Scot Prov				
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	663.40	702.10	+ 4.00	...
British Fund	650.60	688.50	+ 7.70	...
International	636.20	673.30	- 1.10	...
Dollar Fund	527.20	557.90	+10.10	...
Capital Fund	573.20	606.60	+ 3.60	...
Income Fund	810.60	857.80	+ 7.50	...
Property Series A	488.30	516.70	...	4.90
Property Units	810.00	850.50	...	...
Financial Fund	730.90	773.50	+ 6.40	...
Managed Ser A	636.00	673.10	+ 3.40	...
Managed Units	1145.50	1205.80	+ 6.30	...
High Yield Fund	725.40	767.70	+ 7.70	...
Money Series A	308.70	326.70	+ 0.30	...
Money Units	411.60	433.30	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	733.00	775.70	+ 4.60	...
Fixed Interest	405.80	429.50	+ 0.20	...
Indexed Secs	199.20	210.80	- 0.50	...
European Fund	897.50	949.80	- 3.70	...
Natural Res	344.40	364.50	+ 2.30	...
Far East Fund	688.00	728.10	-12.90	...
Smaller Cos	639.30	676.60	+ 9.00	...
Special Sits	612.60	648.30	+ 9.20	...
Man Currency	287.80	304.60	- 0.60	...
Japanese Tech	322.20	341.00	-12.00	...
US Smaller Cos	424.40	449.20	+10.10	...
Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd				
Deposit	264.40	278.40	+ 0.30	...
Financial Ser 1	58.90	61.90	- 0.90	...
Fixed Interest	358.40	377.30	+ 1.00	...
Gold	95.60	100.70	- 1.80	...
Managed	700.50	740.90	+ 5.20	...
Mngd Growth	229.80	242.00	+ 3.80	...
Mngd Opp	244.30	257.30	+ 3.60	...
Property	324.20	341.20	...	...
Residential Prop	107.40	113.20	...	...
TSB American	277.90	292.60	+ 6.40	...
TSB Brit Gwth	1033.10	1087.60	+13.60	...
TSB European	325.20	342.50	- 1.10	...
TSB Income	442.70	466.10	+ 5.60	...
TSB Intl	487.40	513.10	- 0.10	...
TSB Intl Inc	328.00	345.40	+ 1.30	...
TSB Pacific	432.00	454.90	- 5.30	...
TSB Prem Inc	280.50	295.10	+ 2.30	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, *Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48881*				
Global Managed	662.80	697.70	+ 8.20	...
Global Property	319.50	336.30	...	...
Global Fixed Int	562.30	591.90	+ 1.40	...
Global Equity	722.80	760.80	+10.40	...
Global Cash	228.30	240.30	+ 0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 01452 371371				
Property	530.10	558.00	+ 0.50	...
Managed	477.70	502.80	+ 3.50	...
American	518.60	545.90	+ 8.30	...
UK Equity Fd	530.30	558.20	+ 8.30	...
Japan	212.60	223.70	- 6.70	...
Index-Lkd	196.50	206.80	+ 1.00	...
High Yield	977.50	1028	+15.00	...
Money	429.60	452.20	+ 0.30	...
International	443.50	466.80	- 1.40	...
Henderson Active	238.00	250.50	+ 3.30	...
Perpetual Active	378.40	398.30	+ 7.60	...
Growth Acc	745.90	785.10	+ 5.50	...
Gilt Edged	466.90	491.40	+ 1.30	...
European	171.10	180.10	- 0.10	...
Far East	227.80	239.70	- 1.70	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 824000				
B Sec Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	196.20	206.60	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Inv	167.40	176.30	+ 2.00	...
-do- Acc	218.50	230.00	+ 2.70	...
Cash Initial	170.30	179.20	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	308.10	324.40	+ 0.40	...
Equity Initial	751.60	791.20	+11.20	...
-do- Acc	1360.30	1431.90	+20.30	...
Fixed Initial	368.40	387.80	- 1.20	...
-do- Acc	657.40	692.30	+ 2.10	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	136.90	143.10	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	209.90	221.00	+ 1.30	...
Intl Initial	354.00	372.70	- 0.80	...
-do- Acc	630.80	664.00	- 1.40	...
Managed Initial	526.60	554.40	+ 4.30	...
-do- Acc	953.00	1003.20	+ 7.40	...
Property Initial	222.70	234.50	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	403.10	424.40	+ 0.60	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 200 200				
Equity Units	15810	...	+188.00	...
Property Units	2700	2912	-23.00	...
Bal Ind Exec Unit	7575	7974	+44.00	...
2nd Equity Acc	724.60	762.80	+ 9.50	...
2nd High Inc Ac	696.10	732.80	+ 7.90	...
2nd Property Acc	249.50	262.30	- 2.00	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	197.80	208.30	+ 0.20	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	522.90	550.80	+ 3.00	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	262.50	276.30	+ 0.90	...
2nd Deposit Acc	302.40	318.40	+ 0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	354.50	362.10	- 1.20	...
2nd Amer Acc	869.20	914.90	+15.30	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	272.00	286.30	- 2.00	...
2nd Index Acc	219.50	231.10	+ 1.20	...
2nd Far East Acc	467.10	491.70	- 5.60	...
2nd Global Acc	195.90	206.30	+ 0.10	...
2nd Euro Acc	182.70	192.40	+ 0.20	...
2nd Japan Acc	187.50	197.40	- 5.90	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	177.30	186.60	...	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	142.60	150.10	+ 1.70	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0117 984 7777				
Equity ‡	£10.26	...	+10.20	...
Fixed Interest ‡	474.00	...	+ 1.30	...
Property ‡	443.30	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit ‡	313.70	...	+ 0.40	...
Mixed ‡	678.20	...	+ 2.80	...
Indexed Stock ‡	231.00	...	+ 0.80	...
International ‡	336.00	...	- 2.90	...
Equity A ‡	237.60	...	+ 2.30	...
Fixed Int A ‡	209.90	...	+ 0.60	...
Property A ‡	194.40	...	+ 0.30	...
Deposit A ‡	184.00	...	+ 0.20	...
Mixed A ‡	222.40	...	+ 0.90	...
Index Stock A ‡	180.50	...	+ 0.60	...
International A ‡	209.50	...	- 1.80	...
Equity P ‡	867.70	...	+ 9.30	...
Fixed Int P ‡	639.10	...	+ 2.20	...
Property P ‡	351.70	...	+ 0.40	...
Deposit P ‡	375.70	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed P ‡	633.70	...	+ 2.50	...
Index Stock P ‡	265.50	...	+ 0.90	...
International P ‡	398.60	...	- 4.20	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 283456				
Inv Trust Cap ‡	612.70	...	+10.80	...
-do- Acc ‡	1105.40	...	+20.40	...
Property Cap ‡	139.40	...	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	240.50	...	+ 0.50	...
Fxd Interest Cap ‡	199.00	...	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc ‡	345.80	...	+ 1.30	...
Equity Cap ‡	354.70	...	+ 6.20	...
-do- Acc ‡	626.70	...	+11.30	...
Internatl Cap ‡	249.00	...	+ 3.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	435.20	...	+ 6.20	...
Gtd Deposit Cap ‡	161.80	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	278.80	...	+ 0.20	7.20
Flexible Cap ‡	370.50	...	+ 5.00	...
-do- Acc ‡	652.40	...	+ 9.40	...
Moneymaker Fd ‡	502.90	...	+ 6.70	...
Capital Growth ‡	2060.40	...	+36.60	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	542.50	569.70	+10.90	...
Amer Rec Bond	*584.20*	*613.50*	*+ 7.90*	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	297.80	312.80	+12.90	...
Australasia Bd	285.00	300.30	+ 9.60	...
Commodity Bond	380.60	399.80	+ 6.10	...
Deposit Bond Acc	385.00	404.40	...	...
Equity Bond Acc	1721.90	1808.10	+24.20	...
European Bd Acc	486.30	510.70	+ 1.00	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	850.70	893.30	+10.00	...
Far East Bd Acc	337.00	351.90	- 6.10	...
Gilt Bond Acc	479.70	503.70	+ 1.80	...
Gold Bond Acc	*195.90*	*205.80*	*+ 1.70*	...
High Yield Bond	359.70	377.80	+ 4.70	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	221.90	233.10	+ 1.10	...
International Bd	887.50	932.00	+ 3.20	...
Japan Bond Acc	246.90	259.00	- 9.30	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	245.60	258.00	- 6.90	...
Managed Bonds	1007.40	1057.80	+17.30	...
Prop Bond Acc	389.70	409.20	+ 5.30	...
Rec Bond Acc	903.40	948.70	+13.20	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	261.60	275.40	+ 3.00	...
UK Equity Acc	391.40	412.00	+ 4.90	...
Special Sits	108.60	114.40	+ 1.00	...
Special Sits Acc	162.60	171.20	+ 1.70	...
North American	222.30	234.00	+ 2.70	...
N American Acc	332.70	350.30	+ 4.50	...
Pacific Basin	367.20	386.60	- 3.70	...
Pacific Basin Acc	549.50	578.50	- 2.00	...
Fixed Interest	296.00	311.60	+ 1.00	...
Fixed Interest Acc	443.30	466.70	+ 1.90	...
Property	179.70	189.20	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	269.10	283.30	- 0.20	...
Deposit	154.20	162.40	...	...
Deposit Acc	231.00	243.20	+ 0.20	...
Managed	291.80	307.00	+ 1.70	...
Managed Acc	402.20	423.40	+ 2.80	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomew House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366				
Property	418.40	440.40	+ 0.30	...
UK Equity	418.90	440.90	+ 6.20	...
Gilt Edged	634.80	668.20	+ 4.00	...
Interest Fund	422.80	445.00	+ 0.20	...
Managed Fd	550.90	579.90	+ 7.70	...
Intl Equity	687.10	723.20	- 0.20	...
North American	258.20	271.70	+ 4.90	...
Far East	481.30	506.60	+ 1.70	...
Intl Currency	262.80	276.60	...	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200				
Managed	570.50	600.50	+ 3.30	...
UK Equity	746.80	786.10	+12.20	...
Overseas Equity	553.20	582.30	- 3.20	...
Americas	509.70	536.50	+ 8.30	...
Far East	619.40	651.90	- 5.80	...
Property	224.70	236.50	+ 0.50	...
Fixed Interest	430.90	453.50	+ 1.20	...
Indexed Gilt	248.40	261.40	+ 1.40	...
Deposit	231.60	243.70	+ 0.20	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200				
Managed Fund	1689.00	1777.90	+15.40	...
Equity Fund	3769.60	3968.00	+60.90	...
Property Fd	624.70	657.60	+ 1.60	...
Fixed Int Fd	964.20	1014.90	+ 2.90	...
Deposit Fund	375.50	395.30	+ 0.40	...
Intl Fund	286.10	301.20	+ 0.10	...
OLD MUTUAL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	342.00	360.80	+ 6.70	...
Fxd Interest Acc	264.20	278.70	+ 1.60	...
International Acc	277.30	292.30	+ 3.00	...
Managed Acc	247.10	260.70	+ 2.80	...
Property Acc	214.90	226.70	+ 0.30	...
Money Acc	164.40	173.50	+ 0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	241.90	255.20	- 3.00	...
Japan Equity Acc	124.10	131.00	- 3.80	...
N Amer Acc	186.60	196.90	+ 7.30	...
Pacific Acc	162.40	171.40	- 0.90	...
European Acc	250.00	263.80	+ 1.90	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	148.20	156.00	+ 0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	332.30	349.80	+ 0.40	...
Inv Equity	1416.00	1490.60	+21.90	...
Inv Managed	979.80	1031.40	+ 7.90	...
Ret Managed	1140.70	1200.80	+13.30	...
For Provident Mutual see General Accident				
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 0171 405 9222				
Managed	407.50	424.50	+ 8.90	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	943.50	993.20	+ 5.40	...
Equity Fund	1843.30	1940.40	+24.20	...
Intl Fund	747.80	787.20	- 1.90	...
Fixed Interest	624.90	657.80	+ 2.70	...
Property Fund	487.70	513.40	- 0.80	...
Cash Fund	389.50	410.10	+ 0.10	...
Pacific Basin	400.40	421.50	- 5.10	...
N American Fd	353.30	371.90	+ 4.30	...
Euro Fund	341.90	359.90	+ 0.20	...
Balanced Fund	185.80	195.60	+ 2.10	...
Strategic Fund	199.10	209.60	+ 1.50	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45) ‡	886.80	...	+ 3.30	...
-do- Acc	498.60	524.80	+ 0.20	...
Op Prop	512.60	539.50	+ 0.80	...
Op Equity	*1193.70*	*1256.50*	*+16.70*	...
Op High Yield	653.70	688.10	+ 3.00	...
Op Managed	951.10	1001.10	+10.10	...
Op Deposit	418.10	440.10	+ 0.40	...
Japan Smlr	259.20	272.80	- 0.90	...
Managed Gth	323.70	340.70	+11.20	...
Gilt	89.60	94.30	+ 0.50	...
British	437.70	460.70	+14.10	...
Global Bond	130.50	137.30	- 2.40	...
Global Managed	208.60	219.50	+ 5.60	...
Gold Share	93.30	98.20	+ 4.30	...
High Income	339.30	357.10	+ 9.90	...
Japan	422.10	444.30	- 2.90	...
UK Smlr Cos	503.60	530.10	+19.50	...
Mngd Growth	555.10	584.30	+18.50	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000				
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	451.80	475.50	+ 4.60	...
Equity Fund	646.40	680.40	+ 8.20	...
Property Fund	350.10	368.50	+ 0.70	...
International	563.50	593.10	+ 3.10	...
Pacific Basin	295.00	310.50	- 1.00	...
United States	346.10	364.20	+ 7.40	...
Gilt Fund	409.40	430.90	+ 1.90	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	86.70	91.80	+ 0.40	2.37
Deposit Fund (2)	402.90	426.40	+ 0.30	6.04
Gilt Fund	576.90	610.50	+ 2.40	8.31
Global Equity Fd	275.10	291.20	+ 1.50	...
Property Fund (40)	119.30	126.30	+ 0.20	6.81
AG Bond Fund	162.80	172.30	+ 1.40	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323				
Equity	710.60	748.10	+13.10	...
Fixed Interest	405.70	427.10	+ 2.80	...
Index-Linked	209.60	220.70	+ 1.00	...
International	524.40	552.00	+ 4.70	...
Property	312.10	328.60	+ 0.40	...
Cash	245.50	258.50	+ 0.20	...
Managed	545.20	573.90	+ 7.10	...
Cap Gteed Bd	137.30	144.60	+ 2.50	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101				
Cash	193.920	204.127	+ 0.14	...
Index-Linked	175.30	184.70	+ 1.50	...
Fixed Interest	199.80	210.50	+ 0.70	...
Mixed	302.20	318.20	+ 2.90	...
UK Equity	289.50	304.80	+ 5.00	...
International	300.40	316.30	- 1.80	...
American	339.00	357.00	+ 3.70	...
Japan	232.10	244.40	- 6.80	...
European	324.00	341.10	- 0.30	...
Pacific	383.70	404.00	+ 0.80	...
Technology	502.00	529.40	+ 9.60	...
Prpn Bd/Cmty	249.60	262.90	- 0.20	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211				
Property	225.70	237.70	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	428.90	451.60	+ 4.30	...
American	319.60	336.50	+ 2.30	...
Pacific	376.20	396.10	- 4.60	...
European	597.40	629.00	+ 1.80	...
International	367.70	387.10	- 0.60	...
Fixed Interest	260.90	274.70	- 0.30	...
Index Linked	211.50	222.80	+ 0.50	...
Deposit	208.50	219.60	+ 0.20	...
Managed	336.70	354.60	+ 1.50	...
Worldwide	140.00	147.50	+ 0.40	...
Pen Worldwide	152.10	160.20	+ 0.40	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	1946.90	2007.10	...	...
Safety Fund	263.30	277.20	+ 1.20	...
Growth Fund	273.70	288.20	+ 1.70	...
Opportunity Fd	273.50	287.90	+ 1.40	...
Cash Fund	185.70	195.50	+ 0.20	...
European Fund	425.50	447.90	+ 0.70	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	222.40	234.20	+ 0.80	...
Index-Linked Fd	193.40	203.60	+ 0.90	...
International Fd	326.50	343.70	- 0.60	...
North American	294.80	310.40	+ 4.30	...
Property Fund	129.70	136.60	- 0.10	...
UK Equity	295.30	310.90	+ 4.00	...
UK Smaller	309.30	325.60	+ 2.50	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181				
Mixed	322.20	339.30	+ 2.90	...
Equity	349.80	368.30	+ 4.10	...
International	305.30	321.50	+ 1.50	...
Property	240.60	253.40	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	245.60	258.70	+ 1.60	...
Index Linked	193.80	204.10	+ 1.20	...
Cash	198.20	208.70	+ 0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	949.20	1008.80	+ 8.60	...
Cash Fund	361.00	380.50	+ 0.40	...
Property Fund	308.20	324.80	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	1054.40	1121.80	+ 5.50	...
Fxd Interest Fund	515.40	543.20	+ 1.90	...
International	433.60	461.30	+ 2.20	...
High Income	853.40	907.90	+12.30	...
Far East	621.20	660.90	- 0.70	...
North American	695.40	739.80	+13.30	...
Special Sits	835.80	889.20	+10.00	...
Technology	1028.00	1093.70	+27.70	...
Extra Income Fd	467.40	497.30	+ 6.10	...
Gilt Fund	528.00	561.80	+ 0.70	...
European	180.20	191.80	+ 0.40	...
Adventurous Mg	243.60	256.70	+ 2.10	...
Secure Mgd	169.40	178.60	+ 1.20	...
Equity Inc Dist	133.50	140.70	+ 1.50	4.22
Managed Dist	120.60	127.10	+ 0.90	4.88
Henderson Investment Bonds				
UK Equity Fd	406.30	432.30	+ 7.00	...
North America	459.60	489.00	+17.00	...
Far East Fund	637.90	678.70	- 6.10	...
Global Managed	561.20	597.10	+12.10	...
Deposit Fund	243.70	256.60	+ 0.40	...
Prime Residential	138.50	145.80	...	...
European Fund	332.70	354.00	+ 5.50	...
Fixed Interest	65.80	70.10	+ 0.80	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, *Edinburgh EH16 5BU* 0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	1109.90	1165.90	+ 4.00	...
Inv Pol 2	1055.10	1110.70	+ 3.80	...
Inv Pol 3	999.80	1052.60	+ 3.60	...
Inv Cash	337.60	355.40	+ 0.40	...
Mixed Fund	536.30	564.70	+ 0.80	...
Equity Fund	654.10	688.60	+ 4.00	...
Property Fund	256.90	270.50	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	578.80	609.40	- 5.80	...
Fixed Interest Fd	417.80	439.90	+ 0.10	...
Indexed Stock Fd	212.90	224.20	+ 1.30	...
Cash Fund	244.00	256.90	+ 0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, *Southampton SO9 7BX* 01703 334411				
Managed Acc	448.80	472.40	+ 8.20	...
Equity Acc	552.70	581.70	+11.80	...
International Acc	385.00	405.20	+ 3.80	...
Property	236.10	248.50	+ 0.20	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0131 225 2552				
Cash	286.80	301.90	+ 0.10	...
Equity	1214.70	1278.70	+12.80	...
European	198.40	208.90	- 1.00	...
Far East	182.20	191.80	- 0.90	...
Fixed Interest	444.00	467.40	+ 1.00	...
Index Linked	227.60	239.60	+ 1.40	...
International	693.10	729.60	- 2.80	...
Managed	825.50	869.00	+ 4.30	...
Nth American	186.00	195.80	+ 4.00	...
Property	385.50	405.80	+ 0.30	...
Pensions				
Cash	456.20	480.30	+ 0.40	...
Equity	1851.50	1949.00	+22.40	...
European	249.80	263.00	- 0.60	...
Far East	148.40	156.30	- 1.40	...
Fixed Interest	630.80	664.10	+ 1.50	...
Index Linked	320.10	337.20	+ 2.00	...
International	1029.60	1083.80	- 1.40	...
Managed	1219.00	1283.20	+ 8.20	...
Nth American	248.90	262.00	+ 6.10	...
Property	544.70	573.40	+ 0.80	...
Stock Exchange	275.50	290.00	+ 1.80	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, *Horsham, Sussex* 01403 232323				
Managed Fund	797.60	839.60	+ 7.30	...
Equity Fund	1081.20	1138.20	+13.90	...
Fixed Interest Fd	452.20	476.00	+ 1.20	...
Index-Linked Fd	344.60	362.80	+ 2.10	...
Property Fund	533.80	561.90	+ 0.60	...
International Fd	763.90	804.30	- 5.60	...
N American Fd	367.50	386.90	+ 5.60	...
Far East Fund	259.20	272.90	- 1.90	...
Deposit Fund	320.00	336.90	+ 0.20	...
Intnl Bd ‡	£106.10	...	+ 4.50	...
Worldwide Bond	176.20	185.50	- 0.10	...
European	212.90	224.20	+ 0.60	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	802.90	845.30	+20.40	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	517.30	551.40	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund ‡	622.30	...	+ 0.70	...
-do- Acc ‡	577.00	...	+ 0.60	...
Agricultural Fd ‡	886.00	...	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc ‡	847.00	...	+ 0.70	...
Abbey Nat Fd ‡	467.40	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Acc ‡	490.70	...	+ 0.40	...
Investment Fd ‡	427.10	...	+ 3.70	...
Investment (A) ‡	408.90	...	+ 3.60	...
Equity ‡	1586.10	...	+19.50	...
Equity Acc ‡	1512.70	...	+18.50	...
Money Fund ‡	514.20	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	489.70	...	+ 0.30	...
Actuarial Fd ‡	701.80	...	+ 6.30	...
Gilt-Edged Fd ‡	425.40	...	+ 1.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	425.40	...	+ 1.10	...
Retire Annuity ‡	1316.70	...	...	...
Immed Annuity ‡	301.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life ‡	242.90	...	+ 0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA *Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ.* Dealing: 01256 841414				
Growth Acc ‡	1698.80	...	...	...
Managed Acc ‡	969.70	...	+10.90	...
Equity Account ‡	1413.80	...	+16.00	...
Mngd Fund Acc	437.50	460.50	...	...
Equity Fund Acc	612.30	637.30	...	...
Prop Fund Acc	273.30	287.70	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	338.50	356.30	+ 1.30	...
Money Fund Acc	236.00	246.50	...	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	218.80	230.30	+ 0.80	...
Pers Pens Acct ‡	2226.80	...	+54.70	...
Pens Mngd Acct	1035.00	1089.50	+26.70	...
Pens Guarantee	287.70	302.90	+ 0.50	...
Pens Equity	402.90	424.10	+11.40	...
Pens Property	318.20	335.00	- 0.20	...
Pens Fixed Int	325.80	343.00	+ 3.20	...
Pens Intl	289.40	304.70	+10.80	...
Pens Money	258.30	271.90	+ 0.20	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	212.50	223.70	+ 1.90	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	1037.60	1092.30	+ 7.90	...
Property Acc	357.60	376.50	+ 7.40	...
Equity Acc	1735.90	1827.30	+17.60	...
Fixed Int Acc	449.20	472.90	+ 1.00	...
Cash Acc	333.40	351.00	+ 0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	491.10	517.00	+13.70	...
Japan Acc	295.90	311.50	- 3.20	...
Pacific Acc	404.50	425.80	+10.90	...
Far Eastern Acc	889.90	936.80	+13.10	...
International Acc	683.00	719.00	+11.30	...
Distribution Fund	*292.30*	*307.70*	*+ 3.60*	*6.09*
European	221.10	232.80	- 0.70	...
Defrd Dist	189.60	199.60	+ 1.80	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE 01264 345678				
Managed Fund	331.60	349.10	+ 1.90	...
Property Fund	233.30	245.70	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	245.80	258.80	+ 0.80	...
Money Fund	214.10	225.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	436.60	459.60	+ 3.10	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929				
Managed Bond	823.20	867.40	+15.60	...
Money Fund	339.10	356.90	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	752.90	792.50	+14.50	...
Fixed Interest	310.90	327.20	+ 1.50	...
Property Fund	361.50	380.50	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	719.70	758.40	+30.50	...
Income	878.90	926.10	+23.10	...
International Gth	738.70	778.40	+19.00	...
Capital Fund	760.80	801.70	+ 5.30	...
Recovery Fund	671.70	707.80	- 1.60	...
Japan & General	264.80	279.00	- 3.60	...
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	19.29	20.31	+ 0.01	...
Bear	22.59	23.78	+ 0.52	...
Owl	25.37	26.71	+ 0.78	...
Bull	21.44	22.57	+ 0.65	...
Stag	22.65	23.84	+ 0.58	...
Gilt Edged	20.71	21.80	+ 0.22	...
Deposit	16.76	17.64	+ 0.02	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	26.87	28.28	+ 0.01	...
Bear	32.30	34.00	+ 0.92	...
Owl	35.89	37.78	+ 1.37	...
Bull	28.65	30.16	+ 1.08	...
Stag	29.85	31.42	+ 0.97	...
Gilt Edged	26.85	28.26	+ 0.34	...
Deposit	22.19	23.36	+ 0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	702.65	...	+20.18	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	422.66	444.91	+14.72	...
N Amer Equity	363.81	382.96	+18.65	...
Far East Equity	410.21	431.80	+ 5.94	...
Fixed	328.94	346.25	+ 3.56	...
Cash Deposit	218.90	230.42	+ 0.16	...
Property	156.98	165.24	+ 2.28	...
Special Opp	427.71	450.22	+10.94	...
Managed	370.07	389.55	+11.17	...
Index-Linked Fd	205.48	216.29	+ 3.06	...
Formerly Crown				
Life Mangd Acc	710.40	747.20	+17.40	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	416.00	437.80	+ 2.40	...
Life Equity Acc	£10.25	£10.78	+30.00	...
Life Money Acc	319.70	336.50	+ 0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	929.50	978.40	+22.70	...
Life Intl Acc	573.20	602.80	+10.90	...
Life High Inc Acc	941.50	990.20	+27.20	...
Life Property Acc	251.10	264.30	+ 1.90	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1416.80	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	840.00	884.20	+13.50	...

[illegible]

No frills from the cousins

Sarah Jones checks out the pluses and minuses of having a gold card

Hoping we will become ever more like our cousins stateside, the People's Bank is launching a gold version of its "no frills" credit card.

No frills is not something one normally associates with a gold card. Indeed, such cards are designed to give a range of benefits not available with a basic credit card, often as some sort of justification for the high fee that is charged.

In the US, 30 per cent of credit cardholders have gold cards, compared with only 5 per cent in the UK. The People's Bank, which arrived in the UK less than four months ago, clearly believes there is room for expansion here.

Ronald Urquhart, managing director, says: "It seems that credit card companies in the UK have been using gold cards as a way of charging their biggest spending customers more. For too long now, credit card issuers have been managing credit to their own strong advantage — and gold customers have been getting a particularly raw deal." The new card, like the basic credit card, has no annual fee, an APR of 14.4 per cent and up to 56 days' interest free. In addition, there is a minimum credit limit of £3,000 (maximum £10,000), free card protection, and up to £250,000 of travel accident insurance. You must earn at least £25,000 to qualify.

UK cardholders have traditionally been put off gold versions by the large annual fees. Barclays charges £30, Lloyds £40, and Midland and NatWest £35. To date the cards that have dominated the market, from the Co-operative and MBNA, have no fee. The Co-op recently launched a base-rate gold card with an annual fee of £120.

Mark Austin, of RBS Advanta, says: "Gold cards do offer better credit limits, sometimes lower rates of interest and also travel protection and helplines that frequent travellers may find helpful. But you need to decide whether those benefits are worth the fee."

You also need to be careful on the advertised APR, which for gold cards are generally calculated on a borrowing figure of £3,000 and will include the annual fee. If you borrow over £3,000 the fee will appear insignificant, but if you borrow less then it will have a much bigger impact. For example, the Midland Gold card has an annual fee of £35 and an APR of 15.3 per cent. But when calculated on a lower borrowing of £1,000, the APR rises to 18.1 per cent. It is far better to look at the monthly rate and mulriply it by 12 to get a more realistic figure.

THE TIMES WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Reform estate agents' fees to reflect service provided

From Mr R. W. G. Dyce

Sir, We have recently moved house, so found your articles (Weekend Money, July 27) of interest. Using our own variations of the Cathy Wardale approach, in addition to being realistic about selling prices, we have sold three houses after being on the market for eight days. This time, our sale took four weeks. Nevertheless, our experience of estate agents and their fees has proved to us why the "feel-good" factor remains in short supply in the property market. Are there any other professions that do so little for so much? A fee, as you said, of £4,000 for marginal non-involvement in the sale of a £100,000 property seems to me to border on the extortionate.

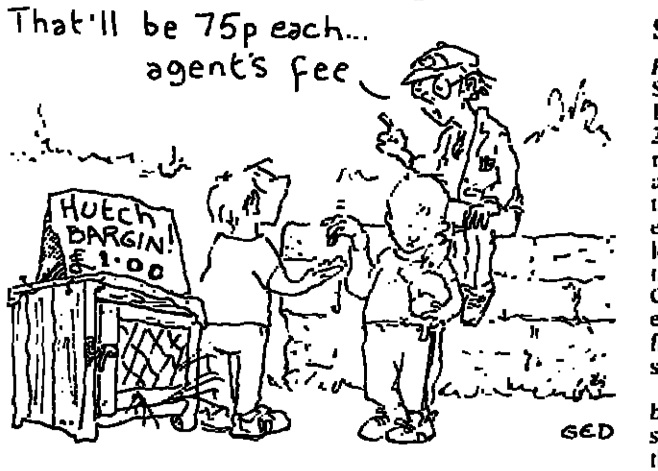
I would add that I find the charges made by solicitors and surveyors quite acceptable.

Why has not the existence of publications such as *Loot* not brought about the demise of estate agent involvement in property sales? The answer must be that purchasers receive a free service from estate agents. By contrast, vendors must use the services of an estate agent if they are to make contact with the maximum number of purchasers.

By making a house saleable and asking a realistic price, vendors can generally sell properties quickly. Large numbers of vendors do neither and may take a long time to sell, or never do so. At the same time, they consume a large amount of estate agency resources. Why should the former class of homeowner be forced to contribute to the estate agency expenses of the latter?

I, therefore, propose, in the short term, that all users of estate agency facilities should pay in accordance with the service received. This would lead to fundamental restructuring of the business and be good for the market. Richard Branson, are you listening?

Yours sincerely,
R. W. G. DYCE,
62 Prince of Wales
Apartments, The Esplanade,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire.


That'll be 75p each... agent's fee
HUTCH BARGIN! £1·00
GED

Endangered species

From Ms Doreen Spark

Sir, In her article Winners and Losers (Weekend Money, July 27), Marianne Curphey quite rightly bids us be wary of acting upon the predictions of the saloon bar financial adviser. However, no amount of legislation or "golden rules" thought up by the Investors Compensation Scheme will ever prevent such pundits from giving their mostly unsought advice.

However, it seems to me to be unfair to make a comparison of that type of pundit with the professional, properly regulated, financial adviser. Most of these are well qualified and capable of giving sound financial advice to the serious investor. Unfortunately, I suspect many of them are now in danger of becoming extinct as they struggle to cope with the bureaucracy imposed upon them by the Personal Investment Authority.

Yours faithfully,
DOREEN R. SPARK,
82 Longfields,
Marden Ash,
Ongar, Essex.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. *The Times* regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice.

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Advertisement Feature

One call cuts 20% off Larry's home insurance bill

SENIOR ANALYST Programmer Larry Rozmaryn and his wife, Ros, love the theatre. But these days, the cost of the best seats is pricey – and the couple, both 42, from Barnet, Herts, and with two daughters, Hayley, 14 and Leanne, 10, and the family's cat Mitch, to care for, an evening out at a show followed by dinner is a rare luxury.

Nevertheless, when they celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary in September, the couple are planning to splash out and have booked seats for the new hit musical Martin Guerre – and it's all thanks to Prudential.

When the buildings and contents insurance on their end-of-terrace four bedroom house in Barnet, Herts came up for renewal recently, Ros decided to follow up on a number of advertising leaflets to see if they could lower the cost of protecting their home. "We were paying £644.73p for our combined old policies and that seemed very expensive." By choosing to pay monthly, Larry and Ros were paying interest on top of the basic premium, taking the total cost of their annual premium to £709.20.

They wanted to pay less, yet achieve the same fully comprehensive, all risks, New-for-Old cover with legal protection and additional personal protection that their old policies afforded them. "We wanted a policy with a reliable, well-known company and one that would provide all the fine details", Larry explains.

And achieving that wasn't easy. "Ros rang Prudential and we were both delighted when they quoted us £557.17 for identical cover – a saving of over £152. What's more there were no interest charges for making monthly rather than an annual payment." That is more than 20 per cent less than they were paying for their previous policies.

Prudential's quote was so much cheaper than their existing insurers because of the generous discounts Prudential offer. They include:

- 15 per cent off your contents premium when you take out combined buildings and contents insurance.
- £25 off your first year's buildings premium if you switch your policy from your bank, building society or other mortgage lender or £15 off if you switch from another insurance company or have not insured with Prudential before.
- Security discount of up to 15 per cent off your contents premium if your home complies with Prudential's minimum security requirements.
- Up to 20 per cent off your buildings and contents premium if you are aged 45 and over.

There are other features of their new policy which also pleased Larry and Ros. "When I telephoned Prudential on their free phone number for a quote, they were very efficient", Ros says.

Larry adds: "When the policy arrived, I was pleased to discover it was all in plain English rather than the usual jargon. Knowing Prudential's reputation, we feel that our home and its contents are securely covered."

EXAMPLE PREMIUMS

The cost of your home insurance premium depends on a number of factors including where you live. That's because some areas are more risky than others. To get a rough idea of how much a Prudential New-for-Old home insurance policy might cost you, consult the table below.

Premiums shown are for buildings and contents cover for a person aged 30 owning a three bedroom semi-detached house built in 1955.

Postcode	Annual premium	Monthly premium
Aberdeen AB1	£158.31	£13.19
Bournemouth BH9	£185.99	£15.50
Bradford BD24	£167.59	£13.97
Bristol BS27	£178.86	£14.91
Stevenage SG3	£205.15	£17.10

The figures are correct at July 15 1996. Please note that they include the 15 per cent discount for combined buildings and contents insurance plus a £15 introductory discount off the buildings premium. Insurance Premium Tax of 2.5 per cent is included.

Peace of mind insuring with Prudential

PRUDENTIAL are justly proud of their customers' loyalty. Around 1.75 million homeowners in the UK are protected by Prudential home insurance – and 90 per cent of those customers renewed their policies last year.

They do so because they know they are getting the best possible cover when they insure with Prudential – and making a worthwhile saving on their premiums.

Prudential is one of the UK's largest insurance companies with funds of around £82 billion under management. Customers know that when they sign up for a policy, they are dealing with a company which has a proven reputation for stability and strength, going back nearly 150 years. When you're with Prudential you have peace of mind, knowing you are fully protected should the worst happen.

Stop Thief Video

PRUDENTIAL are keen to help homeowners protect their property which is why they offer a FREE video, STOP THIEF! presented by Andrew Sachs to everyone who calls the free phone number for a home insurance quote.

The video offers vital tips on ways to protect your home and belongings. So why not call Prudential now on 0800 300 300 and quote reference GAC 350. Your call will cost you nothing – but could protect yourself and your possessions against unwelcome intrusion. Lines are open Monday-Friday 8am to 8pm and Weekends 10am to 2pm. Please note in some cases we may not be able to provide a quote. For your protection, calls on this number are recorded.

With compliments from Prudential

Call Free on 0800 300 300
Quote Reference GAC 350

PRUDENTIAL

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 256 783				
Groland Amer	216.20	228.70	+ 5.40	0.14
Groland Equity	275.50	293.10	+ 4.80	1.86
Groland Euro	264.00	279.40†	- 1.80	0.58
Groland Expt Bal	130.50	135.20†	+ 0.70	2.60
Groland Gilt	74.85	77.32†	+ 0.48	6.60
Groland Japan	173.90	184.00	- 6.40	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	665.00	698.90	+ 9.60	2.48
General Inc	556.60	592.20	+ 8.20	2.48
UK Growth Acc	448.00	474.50	+ 8.30	2.67
UK Growth Inc	292.90	311.60	+ 5.50	2.67
Higher Inc Acc	794.50	845.30	+17.10	4.07
Higher Inc Inc	433.50	461.20	+ 9.40	4.07
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	210.60	222.40	+ 0.70	5.56
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.53	99.84	+ 0.33	5.56
Nth America	367.10	390.60	+ 8.10	
Europe	359.70	382.70	+ 2.00	0.35
Brit Excell	88.50	94.15	+ 1.56	2.86
Brit Fndmtls Acc	114.70	122.10	+ 2.80	4.67
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.60	83.62	+ 1.87	4.67
Global Opps	103.40	110.00	+ 0.20	0.11
Balanced Acc	62.98	67.00	+ 0.82	2.62
Balanced Inc	59.57	63.38	+ 0.76	2.62
Japan Acc	46.64	49.62	- 1.19	
Pac Basin Acc	409.10	435.30	+ 8.80	0.86
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	130.10	138.00	+ 0.40	7.07
High Inc Equity	181.60	194.20†	+ 3.10	4.44
Worldwide Bond	287.00	304.30†	- 1.70	4.93
American Growth	367.30	393.30	+ 6.70	0.32
Asian Pacific	326.30	349.00	- 0.60	0.04
Assets & Earnings	298.90	319.70	+ 5.60	2.62
Euro Capital Acc	182.80	195.50	+ 0.40	0.81
Extra Inc	43.57	46.35†	+ 0.03	7.73
General	273.60	291.10†	+ 7.10	3.01
Global Opps	68.04	72.38	- 0.30	0.55
Japan	120.80	129.20	- 4.80	
Managed Inc	48.14	51.18†	+ 0.38	4.69
Mastertrust	166.70	178.30	+ 0.80	1.03
US Emerging Cos	206.20	219.40	+ 7.10	
Ethical	80.45	85.69	+ 1.87	2.49
International	138.00	146.80	0.10	0.29
Dividend & Growth	67.64	71.96†	+ 1.24	4.27
Global Gwth & Sec	73.22	78.26	- 0.06	2.34
Latin America	65.00	69.15	+ 0.88	
Capital Reserve	144.80	144.90	+ 0.10	4.83
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2303.00	2398.00	+27.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	58.92	61.19	+ 1.12	0.50
Emerging Mkts	73.10	77.27†	+ 0.62	0.04
European	153.00	158.20	+ 1.87	
Exempt	1085.00	1149.00†	+12.00	1.62
Extra Income #	45.31	48.60	+ 0.31	6.81
Far East Emg Ecn	130.70	138.60†	+ 0.40	0.45
Fixed Interest #	24.75	25.74†	+ 0.17	9.36
Fund Inv Tst	148.40	156.80†	+ 0.90	9.85
Japan	185.50	192.90†	- 5.50	
Latin American	59.72	62.26†	+ 0.89	0.79
Pacific	85.38	89.65	- 0.10	0.29
Property Share	68.87	72.29†	+ 1.06	2.43
UK Emerging Cos	72.28	78.13†	+ 0.59	1.23
UK Growth	52.42	56.36	+ 1.03	2.12
Aber World Port #	81.29	83.00	+ 1.29	1.89
Ethical	76.39	79.44	+ 0.89	2.22
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.82	51.82	+ 0.02	7.39
For AEGON see Matheson				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Readl Property #	96.48	103.60	.	5.08
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	89.79	95.27	+ 1.42	2.36
Income Builder Inc	79.64	84.72	+ 1.91	4.39
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	279.60	298.80	+ 3.90	3.11
Capital	492.20	526.10	+ 8.30	1.19
Balanced	805.40	860.90	+17.80	2.42
Accumulator	1546.00	1662.00†	+19.00	1.89
Income Trusts				
American Income	60.00	64.010†	+ 0.75	2.50
High Income	452.00	483.10	+ 5.60	3.92
Equity Income	251.50	268.80†	+ 2.90	3.93
High Yield	272.80	291.60	+ 3.60	4.12
Govt Securities	34.17	36.070	+ 0.12	6.05
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	206.80	220.80	+ 3.70	0.05
European Growth	53.73	57.320†	- 0.32	0.07
International	187.90	200.80†	- 0.90	0.11
Japan	207.30	221.60†	- 8.70	
Pacific	419.10	448.00†	- 2.40	
Secs of America	568.40	605.60	+10.30	0.13
Wwide Asset Val	56.26	60.140	- 0.58	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	620.90	663.70	+ 7.10	2.06
Conv & Gilt	47.68	50.960†	+ 0.39	4.25
Smaller Cos	208.40	222.70†	+ 2.10	1.00
2nd Smaller Cos	198.60	212.30	+ 2.00	0.87
Recovery	166.40	177.80†	+ 2.09	1.59
Met Min & Cmdy	166.20	177.30	+ 2.20	0.18
Oseas Earnings	415.00	443.60	+ 3.70	1.09
Technology	221.70	236.30	+ 4.20	
UK Special Sits	571.80	611.20	+10.20	1.02
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cntrcd Out Pens	114.50	118.90		3.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	68.32	70.97	.	1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	80.84	86.00†	+ 0.67	1.02
International	68.45	72.82†	+ 2.18	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	330.80	353.60	+ 2.80	
Bond	117.20	123.30†	+ 0.90	6.77
Brit Smlr Cos	119.50	127.10	+ 2.10	1.77
Conv & Gen #	68.80	73.19†	+ 0.06	5.35
Europe	284.60	301.80	+ 1.20	0.58
Euro Smlr Cos	125.60	133.50	+ 0.20	0.59
Income Gwth	368.60	392.10	+ 3.80	4.41
Japan	323.60	344.10	-12.30	
Latin American	84.86	90.28	+ 0.77	0.84
Pacific	115.90	123.30	+ 0.90	1.19
UK Smlr Cos	59.40	63.19	+ 0.39	1.25
Japan Fd	676.70	697.00	-25.90	
Mngd Fd	209.30	212.60	+ 1.40	2.82
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	371.60	393.10	+15.40	0.90
Capital Gwth	126.70	134.00	+ 2.40	2.47
Wwide Opps	222.30	235.20	+ 8.90	0.88
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bict Inv Fd Inc	416.60	434.00	- 2.90	2.58
European Bd Inc	95.53	98.88†	+ 0.29	6.63
Exempt	80.75	86.17	+ 1.46	2.99
500	508.90	556.50	+ 8.10	2.41
General	321.10	344.00	+ 6.30	2.61
Property	241.30	258.90	+ 1.00	5.55
Trustee	219.50	235.00†	+ 4.10	2.46
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.40	100.40†		4.98
Distribution cty #	112.20	112.80	+ 1.50	6.17
Extra Income #	134.90	144.30	+ 1.80	4.84
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.39	60.44	+ 0.33	7.91
Income #	574.80	614.70†	+ 8.30	4.81
Income Builder #	68.83	73.42	+ 0.96	5.49
Intl Income	69.92	74.38†	+ 0.45	2.69
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	137.70	146.90†	+ 1.40	2.09
FTSE 100	97.90	104.60	+ 1.80	2.73
Leisure	174.90	187.10	+ 4.00	0.72
Recovery	483.70	517.30	+ 7.20	2.73
Smlr Cos Inc	57.90	62.10†	+ 0.87	2.14
Special Sits	381.70	408.20	+ 8.10	0.74
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	170.40	181.10	+ 3.90	0.13
Aust Acc	275.70	294.20	+ 1.00	1.84
Aust Inc	164.90	175.90	+ 0.60	1.84
Euro Gwth Inc	189.80	201.60	+ 0.40	0.48
-do- Accum	205.00	217.80	+ 0.50	0.48
Japan & Gen Inc	151.70	160.60	- 5.60	
-do- Accum	153.40	162.40	- 5.70	
Japan Spec Sits	71.12	75.34	- 2.62	
Worldwide	195.80	207.90†	+ 0.10	0.47
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	129.50	136.80	+ 3.10	
Amer Smllr Cos	164.20	177.10	+ 8.40	
Convertibles	59.48	63.79	+ 0.48	4.70
Eastern	297.10	320.60	+ 1.40	0.31
Equity Income	95.69	102.40†	+ 1.70	4.40
European Growth	358.50	381.50	4.10	0.60
Europe	354.60	378.10	+ 1.20	0.91
German Growth	89.66	94.92	+ 1.21	0.50
Global Bond	70.13	73.80†	+ 0.01	6.50
Global Growth	145.20	154.40	- 0.10	0.40
Japan Growth	195.60	209.60	- 5.30	
Japan Sunrise	167.30	177.50	- 4.50	
Korea Trust	70.96	76.98	- 0.43	
Portfolio	142.80	154.00	- 1.80	2.30
-do- Accum	249.40	268.50	+ 3.50	2.30
UK Growth	100.90	108.30	+ 1.90	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	95.81	105.20	+ 1.10	2.50
Select Managers	87.79	94.26	+ 0.77	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	89.56	95.28†	+ 0.10	
Special Oppor Inc	50.05	53.88†	+ 0.01	
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	137.33	145.32	+ 2.62	1.53
-do- Accum	158.25	167.46	+ 3.02	1.53
Smaller Cos	151.94	160.78	+ 1.77	0.74
Higher Yield #	55.41	58.64†	+ 0.88	3.34
American Gth Inc	94.59	100.09†	+ 2.50	
European Growth	166.01	175.68	+ 2.16	
-do- Accum	169.35	179.21	+ 2.20	
Global Bond Inc #	26.57	27.62	0.01	6.43
Mngd Pfolio Inc	52.37	55.40	+ 0.57	1.43
-do- Accum	53.98	57.09	+ 0.59	1.43
Int Spec Opps	164.02	173.57	+ 1.90	
Pacific Gth	146.85	155.40	+ 1.62	0.13
UK General #	92.19	97.55†	+ 1.74	2.89
-do- Accum #	98.62	104.37	+ 1.87	2.89
Japan	58.79	62.22†	- 3.19	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	100.48	104.13	+ 0.60	6.48
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	66.13	66.98	- 0.09	6.52
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	186.90	196.70	- 2.00	1.85
UK Growth	201.80	212.50†	+ 2.90	2.18
UK Income	145.50	153.10	+ 1.60	4.55
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 652 100				
Can Gen Dist	228.40	242.10†	+ 3.00	1.64
-do- Income Dist	122.10	129.40	+ 1.80	3.86
-do- Accum	391.90	415.40	+ 5.70	3.86
Gilt & Fxd Int	40.27	42.33†	+ 0.13	6.47
Growth Units	245.30	262.40	+ 4.80	2.07
Bond	177.40	186.60	+ 1.20	7.10
Intl Growth	244.90	260.70	3.00	0.21
North American	253.00	269.42†	+ 5.70	0.26
Far East	303.90	325.00†	+ 0.80	0.78
UK Smaller Cos	223.80	239.40	+ 2.70	0.92
European	97.26	103.10†	- 0.30	0.89
Japanese Growth	47.56	50.49	- 1.47	
High Income	215.10	230.00	+ 4.10	4.29
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	217.50	230.70	+ 2.90	
European Inc	93.14	98.76†	- 0.09	0.51
Smaller Cos (4-1)	107.10	114.00	+ 1.40	1.52
Growth	526.40	560.00	+ 4.60	1.82
Income & Growth #	449.80	472.20†	+ 8.70	4.04
-do- Accum #	670.80	713.70	+10.10	4.04
Japan & Gen	68.26	72.61	- 2.55	
Master Portfolio	11577	11965†	+92.00	2.05
-do- Accum	14238	14715	+114.00	2.05
Special Sits	121.40	129.20†	+ 1.60	1.88
High Yield	£14.54	£14.99	+22.00	4.46

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	100.26	106.97†	+ 0.91	2.40
American Portfolio	120.82	128.38	+ 0.77	0.88
European Portfolio	133.88	142.93	- 0.34	0.62
High Income	51.13	51.26†	+ 0.02	7.16
Japanese Portfolio	68.69	72.99†	- 2.18	
Pacific Portfolio	155.02	165.60	+ 1.77	1.43
UK Equity	96.53	103.11	+ 1.23	3.10
UK Equity & Bd	57.17	60.59	+ 0.33	6.31
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	750.57	761.91	+18.82	4.32
Fxd Int Sec	155.80	156.42	+ 1.19	9.14
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	744.15	755.39	+19.72	4.41
Investment Acc	£33.92	£34.43	+90.21	
Fixed Int Inc	126.32	126.82	+ 1.29	9.15
Fixed Int Acc	225.01	225.91	+ 2.32	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	90.96	96.10	+ 2.69	2.99
Beck Bio-Tech	41.39	44.92	+ 2.30	
Acorn Ethical Tst	181.69	190.78	+ 4.01	0.45
City Fin Assets	81.22	85.29	+ 4.16	1.57
City Fin America	110.93	116.49	+ 6.35	
City Fin Intl	90.21	94.73	+ 2.52	0.45
City Fin Japan	152.03	159.64	- 1.08	
Friars Hse Cap	314.29	334.35†	+ 8.44	2.53
Friars Hse Inc	197.52	210.13	+ 2.83	3.59
Buckley Wrld Gth	143.22	151.81	+ 5.05	
J Sal Inc/Gth Inc	56.24	58.01	+ 1.19	3.32
Shaw Utilities	59.30	60.40	+ 2.29	6.03
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	57.20	60.69†	+ 0.17	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	78.60	83.62	+ 2.09	
Dragon Growth	71.71	76.69	+ 0.11	0.39
Equity High Inc	89.08	95.48	+ 1.81	4.11
-do- Accum	126.74	135.85	+ 2.58	4.11
Extra Income Inc	26.25	27.63†	+ 0.14	7.55
Extra Income Acc	28.46	29.96	+ 0.15	7.55
European Gwth	62.49	66.30	- 0.18	0.96
Evergreen	32.00	34.22	- 0.14	
General Equity	101.13	107.30	+ 1.89	3.01
Japan Growth	50.82	53.85	- 2.26	
Pacific Gwth	62.92	66.94	+ 1.08	2.41
Prsl Sm Cos Inc	38.15	40.59	+ 0.44	1.47
-do- Accum	40.42	43.00	+ 0.47	1.47
Retirement Inc #	27.51	29.27	+ 0.57	5.83
Special Sits	46.56	49.52	+ 0.66	2.33
UK & Overseas	58.64	62.22	+ 0.13	0.72
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 800				
Balanced	67.35	70.15	+ 1.20	4.09
Capital	81.43	84.82	+ 1.16	2.31
High Income	50.69	53.80†	+ 0.32	7.18
Top 50	54.73	57.01	+ 0.86	2.14
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	190.05	197.97	+ 3.33	4.64
Long Gilt	42.54	44.38†	+ 0.24	6.35
Monthly Inc Plus	48.84	50.88	+ 0.24	8.81
Preference Share	47.69	49.68†	+ 1.25	7.85
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	136.78	142.48†	+ 2.23	5.99
Managed Fund	76.02	79.19	+ 0.49	2.71
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	51.22	53.35	+ 0.79	1.78
-do- Accum	60.54	63.06	+ 0.93	1.78
UK & General	94.74	98.69	+ 1.52	2.61
-do- Accum	122.88	128.00	+ 1.98	2.61
UK Growth	187.20	195.00	+ 3.64	1.44
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	211.13	219.93	- 2.71	0.66
Far Eastern Gth	137.32	143.04	- 0.47	0.02
Global Bond	83.16	86.63	+ 0.08	5.72
Japan Growth	115.34	120.15	- 2.40	
North Amer Gth	232.63	242.32	+ 3.54	
Oriental Growth	84.26	87.77	+ 0.75	0.26
Worldwide Growth	74.17	77.26	- 0.26	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.84	92.84	+ 0.08	5.18
Homemaker Fund	90.93	96.73	+ 1.02	1.56
Outlier Fund	151.20	160.85†	+ 2.70	1.94
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	35.00	37.46†	+ 0.57	4.48
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	175.50	186.70	+ 1.10	1.99
Income	70.01	74.48†	+ 0.55	4.87
European	74.63	79.39	- 0.09	0.83
Recovery	185.00	196.80	+ 2.70	2.12
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	927.80	942.90		3.56
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
Fellowship Fst	109.20	116.10	+ 1.40	1.12
Income #	283.80	301.60	+ 4.20	4.30
-do- Accum #	742.10	789.40	+10.90	4.30
Smaller Cos	230.50	245.20†	+ 3.40	0.88
-do- Accum	286.20	304.40†	+ 4.10	0.88
Gth Portfolio	99.74	106.10†	+ 1.40	1.60
High Inc Port #	81.64	86.85	+ 1.14	4.38
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Euro Small Cos	1703.40	1758.20	+14.60	
Japan Small Cos	1235.30	1259.40	-20.10	0.01
UK Small Cos	2162.00	2251.80	+24.80	2.94
US Small Cos	2107.90	2153.60	+67.40	0.87
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	227.50	239.40	+ 1.40	0.05
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	165.30	175.70	+ 3.10	1.84
UK High Inc Inc	173.20	184.20	+ 2.70	3.87
-do- Accum	233.80	248.70	+ 3.60	3.87
UK Pref & F I Inc	58.57	62.14	+ 0.28	5.95
Environmtl Opps	98.70	105.00	+ 1.90	0.95
UK Smlr Cos #	67.05	71.32	+ 0.80	0.80
Extra Income Inc	48.10	51.16†	+ 0.30	8.16
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	175.90	186.10	+ 3.20	0.43
Convertibles #	22.35	23.75	+ 0.34	5.89
Equity Income #	141.50	150.30	+ 1.70	3.99
EuroFund	63.27	66.95	- 0.55	0.60
Financial	54.19	57.58	+ 0.89	1.56
Growth & Inc #	281.40	299.00†	+ 4.30	2.93
High Dist #	176.50	187.50	+ 2.50	4.21
International	439.60	467.10†	+ 2.00	0.11
Int Cap Inc	104.50	111.60†	+ 0.40	2.42
Latin American	33.09	35.16†	+ 0.43	
Pacific	83.19	88.39	+ 0.38	
Pref High Inc	21.78	23.14†	+ 0.08	7.78
Tokyo	226.20	239.90	- 6.50	
UK Smaller Cos	254.70	270.60	+ 1.20	1.11
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Gwth	333.30	352.50	- 0.10	1.02
New Asia	232.80	248.60	- 0.20	0.23
Japan Growth	111.60	118.70	- 3.80	
Jap Smllr Co	466.70	496.50	-13.80	
Nth Amer	411.90	436.00	+14.00	0.67
UK Inc & Gth	245.50	262.90	+ 4.50	2.82
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRB Director Dlgs	113.09	120.95	+ 1.63	1.26
Growth Acc	251.70	268.83	+ 6.22	0.34
Income	580.77	618.52†		6.12
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	226.40	240.60	+ 4.50	0.38
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	91.75	96.58	0.42	1.99
Ethical Tst	47.41	49.91	+ 0.34	0.98
Far Eastern	309.34	325.62†	- 2.41	1.53
High Income	137.37	144.60	+ 1.79	5.01
UK Index Trckng	48.98	51.56†	- 0.24	3.37
Intl Growth	145.12	152.76	- 0.36	0.27
North American	145.87	153.34	+ 0.09	1.67
Pelican	139.16	146.43	+ 2.10	2.29
Smaller Cos	71.90	75.68	+ 1.13	2.52
Special Sits	92.91	97.80	+ 1.12	2.60
T'st of Inv Tsts	212.57	223.76†	+ 1.82	1.21
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	236.06	251.15	- 2.27	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	420.67	447.52	- 4.02	1.49
Recovery	59.67	63.42	+ 0.47	1.68
Recovery Acc	61.66	65.60	+ 0.49	1.68
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	85.12	90.06	- 0.99	
Fd of Inv Tsts	51.42	54.65†	- 0.04	0.53
High Income #	37.15	39.51†	+ 0.21	11.55
Managed	45.99	51.08	- 0.06	
Zero Preference	42.01	45.63	+ 0.36	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	90.71	96.49†	+ 1.89	2.70
United Charities	310.40	330.20	+ 4.60	2.42
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.20
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	27.76	27.85†	- 0.01	7.18
Intl Bond	29.22	30.31†	0.07	5.74
Strategic Inc	26.56	27.76†	+ 0.70	5.65
Income Funds				
High Income	26.10	27.40†	+ 0.28	5.62
Income Plus	127.70	135.80	+ 2.00	4.95
Amer Eq Inc	61.68	65.24	+ 0.71	0.23
European Income	49.76	52.95	+ 0.30	2.57
Far East Inc	65.22	69.47	- 1.44	0.92
UK Div Gth	30.59	32.53	+ 0.56	2.30
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	64.74	69.06	0.02	
American	314.00	332.60	+ 6.10	0.13
Amer Spec Sits	177.80	190.10	+ 3.40	
Japan Smaller Cos	35.74	38.32	- 1.75	
European	225.70	242.00	- 0.30	0.57
European Opps	79.60	84.64	- 0.21	0.02
Global Pen	30.20	32.12	+ 0.02	0.35
UK Growth	113.90	126.50	+ 1.80	1.13
Growth & Inc	172.60	183.60†	+ 4.30	2.53
Intl PEP	46.09	49.65	+ 0.50	1.10
Japan Spec Sits	91.02	96.73	- 3.52	
Japan	180.90	192.10†	- 5.90	
Managed Intl	345.10	366.30	+ 1.20	0.21
Moneybuilder	66.70	70.19†	+ 0.34	
Recovery	61.56	65.45	+ 0.82	1.66
South E Asia	191.50	192.62	+ 2.50	1.01
Special Sits	707.50	752.30	+ 8.70	0.51
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	115.31	115.31	+ 0.02	5.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	150.80	153.50	+ 4.10	2.77
Inc Ptfolio #	93.58	95.21	+ 1.42	2.89
Cap Ptfolio	160.00	162.70	- 0.10	0.90
General Opps	140.30	141.90	+ 2.90	1.77
Growth Inc	36.77	37.48	+ 0.54	0.98
Private Portfolio	486.00	494.80	+15.90	0.56
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 386 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	151.20	160.90†	- 0.40	0.11
Emrg Asian	152.60	161.70	+ 0.60	
High Income	21.71	22.46†	+ 0.14	10.02
UK Income	117.10	118.60	+ 2.20	4.22
US Smaller Cos	412.50	438.90	+ 4.00	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Gartmore				

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	77.88	83.00	+ 4.76	
-do- Accum	77.88	83.00	+ 4.78	
Amer Smllr Cos	668.20	712.50	+29.50	
-do- Accum	680.60	727.90	+30.50	
Capital Tst	385.70	410.30	+ 2.10	1.50
-do- Accum	563.50	599.50	+ 3.10	1.50
Contl Smlr Cos	63.35	67.68	+ 0.64	0.42
-do- Accum	67.39	72.00	+ 0.68	0.42
Convertible	139.90	148.80†	+ 1.70	5.86
-do- Accum	302.90	322.20†	+ 3.80	5.86
Emerging Markets	70.03	74.82	+ 1.58	0.30
-do- Accum	70.27	75.07	+ 1.57	0.30
European	150.80	159.90	+ 2.70	0.90
-do- Accum	159.70	169.40	+ 2.70	0.90
Extra Income	377.30	401.40†	+ 9.00	4.10
-do- Accum	600.70	639.00†	+14.20	4.10
Financial	167.40	178.10	+ 5.50	0.46
-do- Accum	177.90	189.30	+ 5.90	0.46
Gilt Trust	64.42	66.43	+ 0.15	6.79
-do- Accum	97.57	100.60	+ 0.30	6.79
Health Fund Inc	256.60	273.10	+12.20	
-do- Accum	256.60	273.10	+12.20	
Income & Growth	224.90	239.30	+ 3.30	3.61
-do- Accum	356.40	379.10	+ 5.10	3.61
Intl Growth	443.10	472.00	+11.60	
-do- Accum	492.00	524.10	+12.80	
Japan & Gen	175.80	186.70	- 2.50	
-do- Accum	177.50	188.60	- 2.50	
Monthly Inc #	192.20	204.50†	+ 3.60	4.38
Managed Port Inc	130.70	137.10	+ 2.50	1.41
-do- Accum	131.10	138.00	+ 2.60	1.41
Quarterly Income #	56.24	60.42	+ 1.09	4.91
-do- Accum #	63.57	68.30	+ 1.24	4.91
Recovery	362.40	387.60†	- 3.00	0.23
-do- Accum	427.80	457.50†	- 3.60	0.23
UK Growth	64.46	68.57	+ 1.66	2.78
-do- Accum	69.90	74.36	+ 1.80	2.76
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	60.60	64.64	+ 0.88	0.31
FP Am Smllr Cos	201.10	214.50	+ 7.70	
FP Asian Growth	278.70	297.20	+ 1.80	
FP Australian	400.50	427.20†	+ 2.40	
FP Equity Dist	445.40	475.00	+ 8.20	2.52
-do- Accum	981.60	£10.47	+18.00	2.52
FP Euro Gth	281.30	300.00	+ 1.00	
-do- Accum	307.70	328.20	+ 1.20	
FP Intl Bond	59.70	63.17†	- 0.20	4.44
FP Intl Gth Dist	38.12	40.66		0.11
-do- Accum	55.65	59.36		0.11
FP Pac Basin Acc	220.70	235.40	- 1.00	
FP Income #	58.00	61.86	+ 0.95	5.13
-do- Accum #	202.60	216.10	+ 3.30	5.13
FP Jap Smlr Cos	309.30	329.90	-14.20	
FP Monthly Dist #	74.96	79.95†	+ 0.84	5.58
FP Stlg Deposit	100.40	100.40†		5.06
FP Tokyo	82.88	88.41	- 2.75	
FP UK Focus	41.62	44.39	+ 0.45	2.30
FP UK Growth	192.70	205.50†	+ 3.60	2.38
-do- Accum	388.40	414.20	+ 6.00	2.38
Stewardship Dist	418.30	446.10	+ 8.30	1.49
-do- Accum	524.30	559.20	+10.30	1.49
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	79.78	85.09†	+ 0.72	4.80
-do- Accum #	109.10	116.30	+ 1.00	4.80
N Am Stshp Dist	122.10	130.20†	+ 2.00	0.40
-do- Accum	131.10	139.80	+ 2.00	0.40
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	126.90	135.00	+ 3.00	1.61
Open Cap Gth Acc	130.80	139.10†	+ 3.20	0.19
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	118.10	125.60	+ 2.70	2.91
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	125.20	133.10	+ 2.80	2.91
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	119.70	127.30†	+ 2.80	3.47
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	127.80	135.90	+ 2.90	3.47
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	282.20	298.40	+ 4.80	2.06
Cash	49.31	50.05	+ 0.03	5.32
Growth Portfolio	88.32	93.62	+ 0.49	0.88
Income Portfolio	69.61	73.62	+ 0.53	4.18
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	221.50	236.90†	+ 0.40	1.11
Dividend	94.15	100.70†	+ 1.67	5.13
Int Gth & Inc	244.60	261.60†	+ 3.60	1.22
UK & Gen	49.33	52.76	+ 0.47	2.75
Fund of Funds	75.12	80.34	+ 0.96	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	243.80	260.80	+ 5.30	0.13
European Gth	738.20	789.60	+ 6.70	0.60
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	54.97	58.28	- 0.11	4.87
-do- Accum	61.01	64.68	- 0.12	4.87
Far East & Gen	266.20	284.70	- 1.00	
German Growth	146.80	155.80	+ 0.50	
High Yield #	48.73	51.50†	+ 0.27	8.13
-do- Accum #	53.69	56.74	+ 0.25	8.13
Income Inc	194.50	208.10	+ 2.70	4.10
-do- Accum	218.60	233.80	+ 3.00	4.10
International	391.10	417.60	- 1.30	0.39
Intl Income	94.61	100.30	+ 0.70	3.58
Japan Growth	443.20	470.70	- 9.00	
Korean Securities	59.86	64.03	+ 0.67	
Orient Acc	185.70	198.70	+ 0.40	0.15
UK General Inc	195.70	209.30†	+ 4.70	1.58
UK General Acc	349.70	374.00	+ 8.40	1.58
UK Smllr Cos Inc	52.75	56.42		1.72
-do- Accum	57.76	61.78	+ 0.73	1.88
UK Spec Sits	103.10	110.30	+ 2.20	1.17
US Growth	185.80	197.60	+ 2.60	
Wwide Spec Sits	160.10	170.50†	- 0.70	.
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	58.14	62.17†	+ 0.83	2.03
Cash Trust	145.45	145.45†	+ 0.11	5.19
Practical Inv Inc #	122.50	131.02	+ 1.94	3.67
-do- Accum #	288.90	308.98	+ 4.55	3.67
UK Index	176.18	177.07	+ 2.86	3.36
UK Smaller Cos	190.76	204.02	+ 6.38	0.57
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.40	25.28†	+ 0.12	7.75
High Income	33.55	35.85†	+ 0.47	5.16
UK Equity Income	154.33	165.39†	+ 4.29	3.28
Global Bond	30.15	31.26	- 0.02	5.05
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	46.66	49.90	- 0.21	
Global Managed	151.78	161.34	+ 0.43	1.55
Gold & Intl Res	116.03	124.10	+ 0.48	.
Global Utilities	144.85	154.50†	+ 1.98	1.40
Overseas Funds				
American	198.63	211.41	+ 3.96	0.89
European	134.14	142.35	+ 0.13	0.96
Euro Sel Opps	204.02	216.64	+ 0.32	
Amer Emerging	178.65	191.07	+ 6.42	
Hong Kong	159.33	170.38	+ 0.55	1.57
Japan	241.38	256.35	- 7.27	. .
Pacific Growth	223.81	239.37	+ 1.92	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	249.50	249.50†	- 0.93	2.04
Long Term Bal	273.42	273.42†	+ 2.96	2.81
Med Term Bal	225.67	225.67†	+ 2.36	3.05
UK Equity	294.70	294.70	+ 5.87	2.58
UK Emerging Cos	175.60	175.60	+ 2.63	2.01
American	316.89	316.89	+ 4.01	1.01
Japan	133.49	133.49	- 3.84	
European	342.99	342.99	+ 0.62	1.06
Index Linked Gilt	182.75	182.75	+ 1.09	2.69
Fixed Interest	173.56	173.56†	+ 0.61	6.41
Amer Emergng	402.12	402.12	+13.96	
Pacific	239.51	239.51	+ 0.78	0.89
Emerging Mkts	126.72	126.72†	+ 0.64	0.48
Index Strat Japan	148.29	148.29†	- 4.79	0.14
-do- Pacific Rim	203.89	203.89†	+ 0.83	1.16
-do- Cont Europe	187.91	187.91†	+ 0.37	1.89
Index Strat USA	186.44	186.44†	+ 2.70	1.74
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	119.35	126.96	+ 1.50	
Med Term Bal	107.48	114.33	+ 1.18	
Long Term Bal	122.90	130.74	+ 1.42	
UK Equity	136.78	145.50	+ 2.90	
UK Emerging Cos	82.44	87.69	+ 1.31	
American	146.64	155.99	+ 1.97	
Japan	63.78	67.85	- 1.95	
European	142.31	151.39	+ 0.27	
Fixed Interest	89.06	94.74	+ 0.33	
Index Linked Gilt	81.30	86.49	+ 0.52	
Deposit	87.06	92.62	+ 0.07	
Broker Unit Trusts				
B&H Intl	160.50	168.95	- 2.43	0.50
Bicklil Gth Port Inc	72.40	76.41	+ 0.07	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	62.26	65.70†	- 1.48	3.50
-do- Smoke Port	62.54	66.01	+ 1.14	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9930				
Stlg & Intl Inc	609.19	648.07	+14.51	1.46
-do- Accum	687.99	731.87	+16.39	1.46
European Inc	178.56	189.71	+ 0.26	1.61
Amalgam Inc	157.45	166.54	+ 2.22	
N America Inc	311.50	407.83	+ 8.11	
Far East Inc	279.95	304.15	- 6.41	0.22
-do- Accum	322.73	357.26	+ 6.54	0.22
UK Divid Inc	273.10	276.70	+ 3.55	1.66
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing 0171 407 7899				
UK Equity Inc #	39.73	45.06	+ 1.11	4.56
UK Small Cos	67.72	71.55	+ 1.74	0.62
British Growth	62.59	[illegible]	- 0.56	3.11
American Gwth	273.99	297.74	+ 5.76	
Japan Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 7.41	
Greater China	179.22	[illegible]	+ 1.01	0.15
Pacific Strategy	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.06	
European Gwth	74.65	78.47	- 0.61	
Intl Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.75	
US Index (£)	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.63	4.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.55	2.15
Monthly Income	40.25	42.70	- 0.34	8.77
Index & Eqty Funds Dealing 0171 455 3500				
Grd Ult Index (£)	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.55	4.21
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.29	1.56
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9663				
European	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 1.82	0.45
Gilt & Fixed	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.40	[illegible]
Growth Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 5.30	[illegible]
Income Trust	[illegible]	116.60	[illegible]	4.35
International	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.05
Japan Trust	[illegible]	122.50†	- 5.10	
Nth American	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 6.50	
Pacific	[illegible]	527.40	+ 5.40	0.14
GuardFoll	628.23	[illegible]	+12.60	1.26
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2125				
Gilt Trust	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.27	5.29
Global High Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.30	6.36
Corporate Bond	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 0.51	7.77
Eqty & Bond Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.02	5.40
European Growth	[illegible]	154.89	- 0.39	
Intl PEP Trust	[illegible]	74.41	0.07	
Equity Inc	[illegible]	122.51†	- 3.10	4.19
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 4.40	4.18
Recovery	[illegible]	437.10	-17.30	1.56
-do- Accum	[illegible]	452.60	-15.80	1.58
St Inc High Yld	129.65	131.60	+ 1.25	2.20
UK Emerg Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.20	2.31
UK Smlr Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 1.80	2.47
Glob Pro Tst	[illegible]	122.06	- 0.02	1.70
-do- Accum	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.02	1.70
Inc Share Tst	[illegible]	90.54	- 7.61	9.92
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0177 227 5252 01904 611112				
Balanced Inc	54.13	59.13†	+ 0.71	3.78
Balanced Acc	56.36	61.58	+ 0.76	3.78
Growth	[illegible]	24.17†	+ 0.58	1.97
Growth Acc	23.25	25.27	+ 0.60	1.97
Income	[illegible]	27.25	+ 0.47	4.32
Income Acc	[illegible]	27.74	+ 0.51	4.33
Accumulation Tst	[illegible]	25.97	- 0.32	2.92
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries 01277 227 300 Dealing 01277 690 390				
High Provider	29.26	122.33†	- 0.30	6.66
Model Ptslo	[illegible]	251.80	- 5.00	2.31
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				
Enquiries 0645 434545 Dealing 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	257.32	285.11	- 6.41	0.94
Best of British	[illegible]	76.23	- 1.41	2.41
UK Smaller Cos	152.90	165.07†	- 1.79	1.29
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	298.57	319.04	+ 5.13	3.43
-do- Accum #	610.56	652.42	+14.48	3.43
High Income	220.27	238.33†	- 5.90	4.67
Extra Income #	283.24	307.80	- 1.80	5.96
Pref & Bond	[illegible]	49.84†	- 0.17	8.30
International				
Ethical	121.20	130.60	- 2.38	2.02
Internationa	325.54	346.26	0.46	
Global Bond	56.63	57.60	+ 0.04	5.66
Ind Port Tst	89.26	95.15	+ 1.52	0.37
Global Tech	238.20	253.45	+10.90	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	196.29	209.88†	- 1.80	0.17
European	617.01	664.07	+ 7.64	1.56
Europe In Income #	99.15	95.51†	0.38	3.20
Euro Smlr Cos	190.56	204.22	+ 0.28	2.08
European Value	95.92	102.51	+ 0.43	1.23
-do- Accum	103.19	110.28	+ 0.46	1.23
Japan Trust	230.86	245.31†	- 5.20	
Japan Smllr Cos	240.45	256.02	- 6.59	. . .
Pacific Smllr Cos	245.99	262.06	- 3.51	
North American	318.42	336.01†	+ 6.91	
American Smaller	175.15	187.23	+ 4.81	.
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	154.90	163.10†	+ 1.30	5.07
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	119.08	134.60	+ 1.84	2.09
Capital	200.74	210.20†	+ 1.77	1.39
Dollar	490.93	514.06	+11.36	
Enterprise Gth	426.05	446.13	+ 3.59	1.45
European	278.60	291.73†	- 0.96	0.40
Far East	318.48	333.47	- 0.17	
Financial	£10.03	£10.50	+11.00	1.95
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.11	27.15†	+ 0.16	6.74
High Yield	108.48	113.67	+ 1.57	5.34
Income & Growth	159.03	166.52	+ 2.00	3.98
International	296.05	310.00†	- 0.22	0.11
Japanese General	216.25	226.44	- 7.99	
Japan Tech	92.22	96.56	- 5.22	.
Nat Resources	86.65	90.73	+ 0.77	0.16
Portfolio	85.58	89.61	+ 0.43	1.30
Special Sits	205.10	214.76	+ 3.73	0.23
UK Emerging Cos	128.60	134.66	+ 2.26	0.73
US Smaller Cos	156.10	163.46	+ 4.15	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	623.80	665.70†	+14.50	5.02
Capital	709.10	756.80	+13.00	2.38
High Income #	112.39	119.90†	+ 1.40	6.01
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	617.30	653.50	+10.00	0.35
European Gwth	145.60	154.90	+ 0.70	0.01
Japan Gwth	276.60	294.30	-10.70	.
Japan Smlr Cos	35.63	38.03	- 1.45	
Asian	63.32	67.58	+ 0.08	0.10
Sing & Malay Gwth	83.71	89.34	+ 0.27	
Hong Kong Gwth	137.20	146.30	+ 1.90	1.10
Global Bond	22.55	23.81†	- 0.01	5.13
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	162.80	163.60†	+ 2.70	3.59
Tracker Index	127.00	130.40	+ 1.90	2.08
THE FOOTSIE FUND	62.99	63.31	+ 1.08	3.01
Index Funds-International				
American Index	279.90	281.30	+ 3.50	0.99
Eurotrack 100	196.10	197.10	- 0.10	1.43
Japan Index	79.14	79.54	- 2.63	0.07
Tiger Index	208.30	209.30	+ 0.20	0.43
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	47.88	49.56†	+ 0.75	0.83
General Funds				
Managed Dist	88.08	91.56	- 0.03	1.16
Managed	90.49	94.06	- 0.04	1.16
Rupert Child Fnd	99.66	103.60	+ 1.60	2.51
UK Growth	69.48	72.22	+ 1.12	2.10
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	85.69	89.07†	+ 1.12	6.20
Gilt & Fixed Int #	26.80	27.65†	+ 0.06	7.99
UK Inc & Gwth	46.81	48.66	+ 0.75	3.16
UK Income #	367.00	382.10	+ 6.90	4.23
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	61.88	64.16	+ 1.20	0.11
Amer Smllr Cos	162.80	169.20†	+ 6.60	.
-do- Accum	164.50	171.00†	+ 6.70	
Europe Gth	236.30	245.10†	+ 2.20	.
-do- Accum	244.70	253.80†	+ 2.10	
Euro Smaller Cos	45.64	47.44	+ 0.13	
French Growth	96.51	100.30	- 2.10	0.33
-do- Accum	104.30	108.40	- 2.30	0.33
H Kong & China	94.30	98.02	+ 0.81	1.56
Intl Growth	68.27	70.97	+ 0.11	0.06
-do- Accum	69.22	71.95	+ 0.10	0.06
Japan Gth	32.05	33.32	- 1.25	.
-do- Accum	32.05	33.32	- 1.25	.
Japan Smaller Cos	40.24	41.83	- 1.78	
Glob Emg Mkts	97.52	101.40†	+ 0.20	. .
-do- Accum	98.21	102.10†	+ 0.20	.
SE Asia	344.50	358.10	+ 3.30	0.17
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	54.53	56.20	- 0.13	5.56
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010				
Sector Value Inc #	100.30	105.90	+ 1.90	3.81
Sector Value Gwth	101.10	106.80	+ 1.80	2.21
Hy 5 Europe	100.30	105.30	+ 0.80	2.83
Slider Gwth	158.80	167.60	+ 7.70	0.78
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	210.80	224.20	+21.40	
Income #	209.72	223.10†	+ 5.21	4.33
UK Growth	83.56	88.89†	+ 1.26	1.93
Intl Growth	92.11	97.99†	+ 1.47	0.43
Ecology	101.63	108.12	+ 1.02	0.99
European	198.56	211.23†	+ 1.74	.
Far Eastern	307.80	327.40	- 6.10	
UK Special Sits	48.64	51.87	+ 1.17	. .

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	100.70	104.10	+ 0.70	7.30
Gilt Yield	118.70	125.30	+ 0.20	6.56
Global Income	231.40	246.20†	+ 1.70	3.62
High Yield	152.10	161.80†	+ 2.80	5.54
-do- Accum	494.90	526.50†	+ 8.98	5.54
Smlr Cos Div	60.77	64.65†	+ 1.05	3.42
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	152.20	161.90	+ 4.50	
Asian Growth	336.30	357.80	+ 1.30	0.23
-do- Accum	395.20	420.40	+ 1.60	0.23
North American	107.80	114.70	+ 2.20	0.23
European Special	126.80	134.90†	+ 1.40	1.23
European	179.60	191.10	- 1.20	0.47
-do- Accum	237.60	252.80	- 1.70	0.47
Global Eqty Inc	118.70	126.00†	+ 0.50	1.95
Japan	412.10	438.40	-15.40	
Japanese Special	237.60	252.80	- 8.50	
Smaller Cos	142.50	151.60	+ 2.00	1.07
UK Equity Growth	47.53	52.69†	+ 0.79	1.90
UK Index Inc	329.40	331.10	+ 6.80	3.38
Sachum Tst	107.60	115.70	+ 1.40	1.99
-do- Accum	108.10	116.29	+ 1.30	1.99
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	298.55	317.61	+ 4.49	4.97
Inc & Growth Inc	62.65	67.33†	+ 1.13	4.08
Smaller Cos	55.47	59.53	+ 1.37	1.18
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enq 01452 371 500 Dlg 01452 371 623				
Growth Trust	285.20	304.50	+ 6.70	2.65
High Income	112.90	119.70†	+ 2.30	5.18
European Trust	97.07	92.62	+ 0.55	0.56
American Trust	115.10	122.40	+ 2.40	0.05
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 630 432				
UK Cap	409.70	438.70†	+ 6.40	2.40
UK Inc/Gth	452.70	485.10†	+ 3.10	4.01
UK Income	329.20	349.10†	+ 5.80	5.20
UK Sm Cos	301.50	322.60†	+ 4.30	1.52
Euro Gwth	162.50	173.90	+ 0.50	0.46
N Amer Gwth	121.40	129.80	+ 2.70	
Japan Growth	64.27	67.96	- 2.59	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist #	571.10	571.10	- 4.70	2.83
-do- Accum #	£11.53	£11.62	+ 9.90	2.80
Equity Income #	100.20	107.20†	+ 1.70	5.10
UK Tracker Accum #	64.95	64.95	+ 1.11	4.06
European #	143.90	143.90†	- 0.10	1.52
Far Eastern #	223.00	239.00	- 1.20	
Fixed Interest #	52.90	53.90†	+ 0.25	7.48
Gilt #	91.65	91.65	- 0.36	6.77
Global Growth #	95.30	85.39	0.05	1.03
Intl Bond #	54.27	54.27†	- 1.40	5.20
Japanese #	74.91	74.91	- 1.71	
North American #	254.10	271.70†	+ 5.00	0.42
Pacific Growth #	171.10	181.10	+ 0.70	0.92
UK Index #	75.60	75.60	+ 1.25	3.25
UK Recovery #	114.20	114.20	+ 1.30	2.18
UK Smaller Cos #	159.20	168.90†	+ 1.40	1.10
US Index #	82.32	82.32	+ 1.17	1.39
European Index #	91.74	91.14†	+ 0.07	2.12
Japan Index #	41.32	41.07	- 1.30	
Worldwide #	93.37	99.37	+ 0.76	1.47
LINCOLN FUND MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	54.31	58.08	+ 1.00	2.35
Income	63.37	67.77†	+ 1.20	4.20
Far East	53.84	57.72	0.90	0.08
North American	131.70	140.80	+ 3.27	
Global	108.10	115.60	0.90	0.78
European	95.20	101.70		1.06
Japan	105.20	112.50†	3.50	
Intl Currency Bd	61.45	65.13		4.26
SE Asia	109.60	117.20	2.00	0.47
UK Cap Growth	99.12	106.00	+ 2.00	2.75
Recovery Trust	90.06	96.31	+ 1.19	1.26
Managed	76.97	82.21	+ 0.96	1.22
Cash	50.99	50.99	+ 0.02	4.52
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk, 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 854 313				
Balanced	396.70	422.10	+ 7.00	2.38
-do- Accum	938.00	997.90	+16.50	2.38
Contl Euro Gth	81.54	85.94	- 1.10	0.77
-do- Accum	87.75	92.37	1.22	0.77
Extra Inc	279.50	297.40	+ 4.20	4.11
-do- Accum	765.40	814.30	+11.70	4.11
FTSE 100 Inc	116.40	122.90†	+ 2.20	2.72
FTSE 100 Acc	121.60	129.40	+ 2.30	2.72
German Gth	139.50	147.70	+ 1.50	
-do- Accum	145.20	154.50	+ 1.60	
Growth Port	685.70	728.20	+ 7.10	
-do- Accum	685.50	729.30	+ 7.40	
High Interest Inc	97.75	103.30	+ 0.80	7.65
High Interest Acc	102.00	105.70	+ 0.80	7.65
Hi Reserve Inc #	105.97	112.70	+ 1.76	6.39
Hi Reserve Acc #	113.40	120.70	+ 1.90	6.39
Income	537.00	571.70	+ 7.70	3.36
-do- Accum	£15.12	£16.10	+21.00	3.36
Income Port	549.70	584.80†	+ 6.30	4.50
-do- Accum	614.90	654.20	+ 7.20	4.50
Japan Growth	107.50	114.40	- 3.50	.
-do- Accum	107.90	114.80	3.50	
Master Trust	67.12	71.41	+ 0.60	1.39
-do- Accum	77.51	82.46	+ 0.70	1.39
Millennium Acc	93.57	99.55	+ 1.19	2.37
N American Gen	241.00	256.40†	+ 5.40	2.21
-do- Accum	279.00	296.90	+ 6.40	2.21
NAm Sm Co Rec	198.90	211.60	+ 7.50	
-do- Accum	203.00	216.00	+ 7.80	
Pacific Basin	263.40	280.30†	- 0.10	0.15
-do- Accum	280.60	298.60		0.15
Small Cos Rec	513.10	540.20	+ 8.80	1.67
-do- Accum	700.20	740.30	+12.10	1.67
UK Eq Gth	162.80	173.20	+ 5.20	2.71
UK Eq Inc	126.70	134.80	+ 1.90	4.06
UK Growth	102.70	109.30†	+ 1.90	1.96
-do- Accum	128.90	137.20	+ 2.40	1.96
Worldwide Gth	357.70	380.60	- 0.80	0.42
-do- Accum	528.70	562.50	- 1.30	0.42
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	86.90	93.05†	+ 1.76	0.40
General	104.84	112.49	+ 1.95	2.80
Income	72.55	77.84	+ 1.30	5.30
International	74.07	79.47	- 0.03	0.50
Japan	59.18	63.49†	- 2.06	
Tst of Inv Trusts	75.92	81.45	+ 1.33	1.00
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	519.70	549.10†	+11.60	0.40
-do- Accum	650.50	687.30†	+14.50	0.40
Amer Recovery	562.10	594.40	+ 9.60	0.33
-do- Accum	648.40	685.80	+11.00	0.33
Amer Smllr Cos	166.10	175.70†	+ 8.40	
-do- Accum	169.70	179.50†	+ 8.50	
Australasian	198.40	209.80	+ 6.80	2.63
-do- Accum	247.30	261.40	+ 8.40	2.63
Capital	978.70	1035.00	+10.80	2.89
-do- Accum	1153.20	1219.60	+12.80	2.89
Charifund	735.30	742.70†	+10.40	6.05
-do- Accum	3763.80	3801.50†	+53.40	6.05
Commodity	463.70	490.40†	- 0.30	0.43
-do- Accum	685.70	725.20†	+ 1.60	0.43
Compound Gth	1074.20	1136.00	+14.10	3.00
-do- Accum	1171.80	1239.30	+15.40	3.00
Corporate Bond	25.11	25.20†	+ 0.73	7.70
Dividend	43.30	45.81	+ 0.40	4.78
-do- Accum	191.70	203.10	+ 2.20	4.78
Equity Income	346.70	366.60	+ 4.50	5.27
-do- Accum	469.60	496.60	+ 6.10	5.27
Euro & General	631.00	667.30†	- 1.30	0.93
-do- Accum	810.40	857.00†	- 1.80	0.93
Euro Dividend	79.90	84.50†	0.20	3.63
-do- Accum	101.60	107.60†	- 0.20	3.63
Extra Yield	457.40	483.70	+ 6.10	5.05
-do- Accum	1506.40	1593.10	+20.00	5.05
Far Eastern	381.80	403.80	- 1.90	1.15
-do- Accum	509.30	538.70	2.50	1.15
Fund of Inv Tsts	702.90	743.30	+13.30	1.90
-do- Accum	1349.10	1426.80	+25.40	1.90
General	66.80	70.60†	+ 0.70	3.91
-do- Accum	196.70	208.10†	+ 2.20	3.91
Gilt Income	61.24	61.32	+ 0.26	7.20
-do- Accum	182.84	183.10	+ 0.77	7.20
Gold	80.20	84.80†	+ 0.70	0.08
-do- Accum	96.00	101.40†	+ 0.80	0.08
High Income	32.00	33.80	+ 0.40	4.81
-do- Accum	136.60	144.50	+ 1.60	4.81
Intl Growth	91.20	96.40†		0.66
-do- Accum	161.40	170.60†		0.66
International Inc	110.50	116.90	+ 0.70	4.50
-do- Accum	173.00	183.00	+ 1.10	4.50
Japan & Gen	41.80	44.10	- 1.50	
-do- Accum	44.80	47.30	- 1.70	
Japan Smlr Cos	151.70	160.20	- 4.00	.
-do- Accum	152.70	161.40	- 4.00	
Managed Gwth	26.80	28.30†	+ 0.10	1.76
Managed Income	29.40	30.90†	+ 0.30	4.32
Midland	61.80	65.40	+ 0.50	3.39
-do- Accum	214.30	226.90	+ 1.80	3.39
Pension Ex	1057.70	1084.20	+14.30	4.41
Recovery	47.10	49.80†	+ 0.50	2.85
-do- Accum	81.00	85.70†	+ 0.80	2.85
Second General	74.00	78.30†	+ 1.10	3.92
-do- Accum	200.60	212.30†	+ 2.90	3.92
Smaller Cos	73.10	77.30	+ 1.40	3.28
-do- Accum	149.70	158.30	+ 2.80	3.28
Treasury	25.13	25.18†	+ 0.03	5.56
Trustee	43.20	45.70	+ 0.80	4.80
-do- Accum	183.50	194.40	+ 3.20	4.80
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	99.44	105.78	0.24	1.41
Intl Bond	65.94	69.29	- 0.05	5.32
Intl Equity Growth	85.77	91.08	+ 0.15	0.84
N Amer Growth	133.81	142.21	+ 2.07	0.82
Special Sits Growth	26.96	28.68	+ 0.34	2.04
UK Growth	450.42	479.17	+ 6.58	2.68
-do- Accum	611.17	650.18	+ 8.93	2.68
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1479.50	1503.30	+11.10	2.90
Income #	1038.00	1042.30†	+ 4.80	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	180.20	184.10†		3.69
For Manulife see Canada Life				

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Pfolio	175.50	181.00†	+ 1.80	2.55
-do- Accum	208.30	214.80†	+ 2.10	2.56
UK Sel Pfolio	153.80	158.50	+ 2.30	2.52
-do- Accum	185.30	191.10	+ 2.80	2.52
UK 100 Cos	113.90	113.90	+ 2.08	2.82
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Fst	75.20	80.01	+ 1.39	3.62
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	81.40	86.41	+ 1.10	3.08
European	105.80	112.30	+ 0.60	0.62
Income #	81.31	86.32†	+ 1.66	4.27
Nth American	92.81	98.52	+ 1.48	0.24
Far East	179.80	190.90	- 0.50	0.38
Japan	63.58	67.49	- 1.71	
Emgng Mkts	87.60	93.00	0.04	
Intl Growth	129.60	137.60	+ 0.10	0.82
UK Growth	122.60	130.10	+ 2.80	2.52
UK Smlr Co	61.15	64.92	+ 1.00	1.41
Asian Opps Fd	37.98	40.62	+ 0.16	0.31
Glob Gwth PEP	61.59	65.37	+ 0.27	1.24
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	103.90	110.60	+ 3.10	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Income	456.17	485.29	+ 6.25	4.59
Global Inc	76.70	80.61	- 0.54	3.40
Brit Leaders	366.05	412.83	+ 3.74	3.48
Intl Leaders	230.74	245.04	+ 1.21	1.51
PAM Mg Bal Grth	71.06	75.91	+ 3.12	0.62
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	266.60	281.10	+ 4.70	
-do- Accum	285.10	300.60	+ 5.10	
American Opps	132.20	141.07	+ 5.40	
-do- Accum	133.90	142.80	+ 5.50	
Bdtr & Blue Chip	93.95	99.62	+ 1.04	2.41
-do- Accum	119.60	127.00	+ 1.30	2.41
Cash	100.50	100.70†	- 0.10	5.42
-do- Accum	147.30	147.40†	+ 0.10	5.42
Emerging Mkts	127.70	136.90	+ 0.50	0.10
-do- Accum	128.40	138.60	+ 0.50	0.10
European Growth	327.90	342.40†	+ 2.10	0.13
-do- Accum	357.40	373.00†	+ 2.30	0.13
European Income	92.85	98.25†	- 0.60	2.92
-do- Accum	133.60	141.30†	0.60	2.91
General	597.50	635.80	+11.50	1.95
-do- Accum	1215.00	1292.00	+24.00	1.95
Global Bond	116.10	113.00	0.30	5.79
-do- Accum	175.40	184.10	0.30	5.76
Gold & General	239.60	253.70†	+ 1.00	0.15
-do- Accum	250.00	268.20†	+ 1.00	0.15
Govt Securities	92.95	95.84	+ 0.32	6.29
-do- Accum	194.20	200.90	+ 0.70	6.29
High Yield Intl	99.33	102.80	+ 0.50	7.33
-do- Accum	105.80	107.60	+ 0.50	7.33
Income	181.30	192.50†	+ 2.70	4.37
-do- Accum	301.80	319.50†	+ 4.70	4.37
Inc Portfolio #	110.30	117.40†	+ 1.20	4.88
-do- Accum #	119.80	126.90†	+ 1.40	4.88
Intl Opps	573.80	612.00	+10.40	0.14
-do- Accum	774.30	825.90	+14.30	0.14
Japan	174.00	185.40	- 5.50	
-do- Accum	178.70	190.30	- 5.90	
New Europe	231.40	249.00	+ 3.10	0.81
-do- Accum	232.10	250.10	+ 3.80	0.81
Pacific	119.40	126.40†	0.10	0.81
-do- Accum	127.60	136.10†	- 0.10	0.81
Recovery	381.30	400.10	+10.40	0.56
-do- Accum	566.00	603.70	+13.60	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	64.96	69.29	+ 0.81	0.74
-do- Accum	74.78	79.73	+ 0.93	0.74
Portfolio	91.87	98.56	+ 0.79	2.34
-do- Accum	119.60	120.30	+ 1.00	2.34
Managed Gth	119.20	125.30	+ 1.50	1.03
Managed Inc	119.30	127.70	+ 0.70	2.44
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
European Inc	154.56	164.43	- 1.31	0.14
Portfolio	79.07	83.06	+ 0.90	1.30
UK Income Inc	89.99	95.61	+ 1.29	4.56
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	69.09	73.30	+ 0.73	2.63
-do- Accum	74.56	79.07	+ 0.81	2.63
British Tst	102.20	108.00	+ 1.60	2.37
-do- Accum	172.20	177.98	+ 2.70	2.37
Corp Bond Inc	99.11	102.70†	- 0.10	7.02
-do- Accum	101.40	105.00†	- 0.10	7.02
Extra High Inc	69.17	72.64†	+ 0.81	7.29
-do- Accum	146.30	153.10†	+ 1.60	7.29
FT-SE 100 Acc	66.65	69.79†	+ 1.19	3.12
FT-SE 100 Dist	62.58	65.84†	+ 1.12	3.12
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.44	58.71	+ 0.18	6.56
-do- Accum	175.70	182.90	+ 0.60	6.56
High Yield	233.70	244.20	+ 3.20	6.80
-do- Accum	636.50	667.30	+ 8.50	6.80
Income	370.10	374.70†	+ 6.10	5.07
-do- Accum	727.20	761.90†	+14.40	5.07
Money Market UT	49.25	49.25†	- 0.05	4.66
-do- Accum	87.49	87.49†	+ 0.07	4.66
Monthly Income	91.54	95.95†	+ 1.56	4.85
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	128.90	136.70†	+ 2.30	1.44
European Growth	133.50	141.50†	+ 4.80	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	97.73	103.70†	- 0.40	5.35
Income	99.92	106.30†	- 2.30	2.40
Japan Growth	52.60	55.76†	0.90	
Managed	81.75	86.97†	+ 0.91	2.02
Money Market	94.00	99.64†	- 0.12	4.03
North American	111.30	117.90†	+ 5.30	0.38
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	116.40	125.80†	+ 2.10	1.43
European Growth	125.10	132.70†	+ 3.10	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	92.29	97.92†	+ 0.32	5.37
Income	97.96	104.30†	+ 2.10	2.46
Japan Growth	52.12	55.47†	- 0.90	
Managed	78.10	83.09†	+ 0.87	2.00
Money Market	86.68	91.88†	+ 0.11	4.01
North American	100.50	106.50†	+ 4.70	0.46
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	115.50	122.90†	+ 2.00	1.43
European Growth	122.70	130.10†	+ 3.70	
Gilt & Fixed Int	84.43	89.58†	+ 0.27	5.51
Income	95.41	101.50†	+ 2.00	2.52
Japan Growth	53.51	56.77†	0.92	
Managed	80.75	85.90†	+ 0.88	2.02
Money Market	80.05	84.86†	+ 0.08	4.10
North American	112.50	119.30†	+ 5.40	0.35
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	15.00	15.93	+ 0.28	
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers 0171 588 7474 Enquiries 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	463.70	492.80†	+15.50	
European Gth Inc	602.70	645.90	+ 9.50	
-do- Accum	609.20	652.90	+ 9.60	
Intl Gwth	230.10	244.50	- 0.80	
UK Equity Inc	219.00	233.00	+ 3.40	3.89
Do Accum	293.60	312.40	+ 5.00	3.89
UK Ind Trckr Inc	187.10	199.70†	+ 3.30	2.54
-do- Accum	231.50	247.10†	+ 4.10	2.54
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	272.80	288.80	+ 4.00	0.85
Japan Tracker	74.57	78.64	- 2.56	
Asian Tracker	229.50	241.40	+ 0.30	0.14
Mngd Ptolio Inc	186.50	199.00	+ 2.60	1.98
Mngd Ptolio Acc	203.50	217.10	+ 2.80	1.98
Deposit Inc	99.96	99.96	- 0.29	5.22
Europa	290.20	312.40†	- 3.80	
Genesis	210.50	227.50	+ 2.60	2.45
High Income	20.89	22.16†	+ 0.18	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
Acumen	107.80	110.30	+ 1.00	2.20
Acumen Inc	98.73	101.00	+ 0.90	2.20
Acumen Reserve	93.95	94.89†	+ 0.45	7.66
-do- Inc	73.57	74.31†	+ 0.35	7.66
American Growth	71.81	73.66†	+ 0.71	
Equity Income #	103.10	105.90	+ 1.90	4.56
European	83.26	84.85	+ 0.57	0.60
Smaller Cos	92.54	97.07	+ 1.56	1.09
W'wide Eqty	78.74	80.41†	- 0.06	
Global Bond	45.47	45.97†	- 0.11	5.81
UK Growth	111.20	114.10	+ 2.00	1.62
Pacific Growth	118.80	122.80†	- 1.20	0.58
Japan Growth	101.00	102.70†	- 3.50	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	143.20	152.34†	+ 1.38	2.85
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
0161 839 6262				
UK Growth	86.66	91.86	+ 1.11	2.40
UK Income	123.27	130.66	+ 1.61	4.28
Higher Income	233.91	247.94	+ 2.23	4.46
Smaller Cos	104.93	111.22	- 2.48	1.39
International	111.31	118.41	+ 1.23	1.42
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	130.00	138.30	+ 2.60	0.10
European Dist	145.90	155.20	- 1.80	0.30
Far East Dist	198.90	211.60†	- 2.20	
Global Care Dist	85.79	91.27	+ 0.87	0.36
Oseas Dist	1185.20	1260.90	8.70	
-do- Accum	1538.40	1636.60	-10.60	
UK Dist	415.90	442.40	+ 8.40	2.13
-do- Accum	844.90	898.80	+17.10	2.13
UK Extra Inc Dist	92.48	98.38†	+ 1.70	7.90
Wwide Dist	123.30	131.20	0.50	
Wwide Inc Dist	88.40	94.04	+ 0.11	1.38
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	77.03	81.30	- 0.01	0.74
Fund of Funds Inc	69.21	73.04†	+ 0.42	1.78
North America Inc	67.68	71.43	+ 1.17	0.35
UK Equity Gth Inc	67.02	70.73	+ 0.43	2.86
-do- Accum	72.14	76.14	+ 0.47	2.86
UK General Inc	67.24	70.97	+ 1.41	2.87
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.67	51.28†	+ 0.18	6.55
UK Income Inc	64.70	68.29†	+ 1.05	4.25
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0500 550 000 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	54.37	57.84	+ 1.46	
-do- Accum	54.79	58.38	+ 1.47	
Bond	126.61	134.35	+ 0.47	5.66
Cash Income	50.49	50.49	+ 0.03	5.24
-do- Accum	68.64	68.64	+ 0.05	5.24
Distributor	101.50	107.97	+ 1.54	2.98
European	56.30	59.89	+ 0.33	
Foundation	108.56	115.48	+ 1.84	2.74
General Inc	214.98	228.70†	+ 2.24	1.48
General Acc	217.13	230.98†	+ 2.26	1.48
Global	379.50	403.72	- 1.00	
Growth Inc	143.02	152.14	+ 2.57	2.45
Growth Acc	144.96	154.21	+ 2.60	2.45
Higher Income Inc	31.41	32.41	+ 0.56	4.76
-do- Accum	37.56	39.95	+ 0.67	4.76
Income	259.78	276.36†	+ 4.71	3.48
Inspired	145.38	149.35		1.86
Japan	27.69	29.45†	- 0.80	
Oriental Inc	156.93	168.94†	+ 2.61	0.75
-do- Accum	162.69	173.07†	+ 2.70	0.75
Pers Int Gwth	36.42	38.74	- 0.09	
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2565				
High Income #	47.18	49.93†	+ 0.69	8.47
Managed	112.90	119.50	+ 2.90	2.46
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	141.52	148.97	+ 1.05	1.03
UK Equity	166.06	174.80	+ 2.35	2.97
UK Equity Income	148.24	156.04	+ 2.57	3.39
UK Smaller Cos	132.76	139.75†	+ 1.16	1.54
UK Equity Growth	148.27	156.07	+ 2.13	1.15
UK Index Trckg	166.66	175.89	+ 2.17	3.53
Intl Index Trckg	172.12	181.86	- 0.09	0.96
International	278.59	293.25	+ 0.16	0.68
European	253.48	266.82	+ 0.85	0.35
Pan European	168.58	177.45	+ 0.51	1.33
Nth American	236.91	249.38	+ 3.31	0.13
N Amer Smlr Cos	239.35	251.95†	+ 2.57	
Japanese	95.79	100.83†	- 3.30	
Pacific	247.11	260.12†	- 1.87	0.45
South East Asian	283.85	298.79	+ 0.81	0.48
Intl Bond	138.16	145.43†	- 0.09	5.14
Gilt & Convertible	107.80	113.47†	+ 0.43	5.65
Property	81.81	86.12†	+ 0.26	5.71
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	363.80	392.20	- 2.10	0.14
-do- Accum	386.40	416.60	- 2.20	0.14
Japan Inc	112.80	119.50	- 4.40	
Nth American Inc	135.50	144.30†	+ 3.20	0.81
Worldwide Inc	178.70	191.70	+ 0.40	0.15
Hong Kong Inc	167.90	180.20†	+ 1.40	1.25
Swiss Equities Inc	91.03	97.37	+ 1.73	
Wwide Bond Inc	68.40	72.36	+ 0.30	5.41
Emgng Asia Inc	203.00	221.20	+ 1.30	
-do- Accum	203.80	222.00	+ 1.20	
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.05	50.05†	+ 0.04	5.92
Thailand Inc	151.40	165.60	+ 1.20	1.37
New Zealand Inc	98.51	105.90	- 0.20	2.92
Int Mngd PEP Inc	70.45	75.40	+ 0.32	1.30
Latn Am Emg Inc	65.63	70.37	+ 0.47	
UK All Sh Mtn Inc	68.67	69.80	+ 1.14	2.80
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	88.86	95.04	+ 1.75	
Global Portfolio	79.81	85.36	+ 1.25	
Global Opps	69.80	74.65	+ 0.92	
Marsh Global Gth	69.29	73.49	+ 0.59	
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	102.70	110.30	+ 1.60	
Temple Equity Inc	46.49	50.64†	+ 0.92	4.09
Hartley Growth	110.70	117.80†	+ 1.20	0.37
Intl Growth Inc	89.65	95.81	+ 0.95	0.83
IPS Portfolio Inc	93.60	100.10	+ 2.02	
Frames Perkins Inc	71.71	76.69†	+ 0.85	1.38
Harborgh Strat Gth	81.52	87.19	+ 0.89	0.28
International Strat	85.35	91.28	+ 1.82	
UFC Intl-Act Gth	62.73	67.09	+ 1.15	
Chartfield Port of Fds	56.82	60.71	+ 0.95	
Lowes Intl Growth	51.84	54.57†	+ 0.47	
PM UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	243.30	258.80	+ 4.70	1.20
European Gth	129.50	137.20	+ 0.90	0.65
Income & Gth #	150.70	161.00	+ 3.08	2.81
Japan Gth	114.10	121.60	4.40	
Nth Amer Gth	207.90	221.10	+ 4.10	
Overseas Gth	121.70	129.50		0.08
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	272.60	289.90	+ 4.70	2.58
-do- Accum	596.60	634.60	+10.40	2.58
Growth	177.80	187.10	+ 3.10	2.36
Income	263.20	279.90	+ 3.10	3.71
Intl Equity	288.10	306.40	+ 0.20	0.71
-do- Accum	320.80	341.20	+ 0.20	0.71
UK Income	72.77	77.41†	+ 1.14	3.30
UK Intl 25	92.19	98.06	+ 1.13	2.14
New Europe	101.20	107.60	- 0.50	0.21
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	697.41	740.06	- 0.93	0.45
-do- Accum	699.12	741.97	0.92	0.45
Income	429.28	458.06	+ 4.74	3.78
Wwide Recovery	458.80	490.79	0.41	0.66
Amer Growth Inc	311.87	332.54	+ 5.11	0.01
-do- Accum	311.87	332.54	+ 5.11	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	296.89	317.57	+ 1.71	0.20
Far East Gth Inc	313.65	335.46	+ 2.32	0.84
-do- Accum	314.80	336.69	+ 2.33	0.84
Euro Gwth Inc	180.75	192.94	0.43	0.75
-do- Accum	181.37	193.61	0.43	0.75
UK Growth Inc	113.16	121.00	+ 0.78	2.78
-do- Accum	121.54	129.91	+ 0.85	2.78
High Income	111.57	119.33†	+ 1.21	4.03
Jap Gwth Inc	213.56	227.94	7.36	0.30
-do- Accum	211.56	227.94	7.36	0.30
PEP Bond	52.19	54.95	+ 0.42	7.86
PEP Growth	146.17	156.24	0.21	0.95
Asian Str Mkt Inc	136.69	146.20	0.72	0.34
-do- Accum	137.01	146.54	- 0.77	0.34
Amer Smlr Co Inc	199.09	212.94	+ 6.72	0.01
-do- Accum	199.09	212.94	+ 6.72	0.01
Global Bond	57.29	60.85	0.21	4.91
UK Smaller Cos Inc	107.57	115.05†	+ 1.50	1.57
-do- Accum	114.67	122.59	+ 1.60	1.57
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	138.57	147.46	+ 2.09	
European	95.14	101.21	+ 2.03	
Global	70.84	75.36†	+ 1.50	
Pacific	62.66	66.66	+ 0.37	
UK Inc & Gth	79.62	84.76	+ 1.80	2.01
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0008 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Emerg Mkts	50.04	52.95†	0.11	0.98
Fund of Funds Inc	194.03	206.32	+ 3.79	0.58
Fund of Funds Acc	195.38	206.75	+ 3.81	0.58
High Income #	54.78	57.55†	+ 0.85	5.65
Performance	47.24	50.25	+ 0.50	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	171.12	182.05†	+ 3.54	2.12
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	119.90	127.50†	+ 2.10	3.04
Conv & Gilt	118.00	125.60	+ 1.00	5.06
European Income	90.11	95.87	+ 0.10	2.94
Extra Income	180.80	192.30	+ 2.90	4.65
-do- Accum	233.30	248.20	+ 3.80	4.65
Far East	431.90	459.50	0.01	
-do- Accum	441.00	469.10	- 1.00	
Global Income	39.74	41.58†	+ 0.26	5.37
High Income	135.70	144.40	+ 2.30	4.44
-do- Accum	171.20	182.20	+ 2.90	4.44
International	219.50	233.50	+ 1.30	0.55
-do- Accum	227.40	241.90	+ 1.30	0.55
Pref & Fxd Int	43.71	46.50†	+ 0.21	7.32
Recovery	86.32	91.95	+ 1.11	2.29

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	143.20	152.40	+ 0.90	1.43
-do- Accum	158.70	168.80	+ 0.90	1.43
Technology	702.90	747.70	-20.60	
UK Blue Chip	87.29	92.97	+ 1.91	3.08
-do- Accum	100.40	106.80	+ 2.10	3.08
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 478 3377 Client Enq 0171 911 4490				
Managed Fst	45.60	47.35	+ 0.19	1.73
Cash Haven Inc	100.82	101.31†	0.91	5.07
Cash Haven Acc	118.19	119.77†	+ 0.09	5.07
Dist Trust Inc	104.95	108.76†	+ 1.04	6.38
Dist Trust Acc	117.62	121.89†	+ 1.17	6.38
Global Growth	104.82	111.52†	+ 0.82	1.42
Equity Inc	88.64	94.30†	+ 0.70	4.63
Equity	872.13	927.80	+23.73	2.35
European	263.99	279.79	+ 0.02	0.76
High Income	92.02	97.89†	- 1.32	5.34
Intl Gth	221.10	235.21†	+ 0.49	0.73
Intl Sm Co	97.80	104.04	+ 0.57	0.64
Japanese	221.62	229.66	- 7.73	
Nth Amer	237.48	246.12†	+ 7.29	1.26
Pacific Mkt	112.14	121.39†	+ 2.13	0.69
Premier Inc	48.14	50.11†	+ 0.15	6.59
Sm Cos	110.04	117.06	+ 0.85	1.73
Spec Sits	124.70	132.66†	+ 1.73	2.66
UK Growth	143.81	152.99†	- 0.14	2.33
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
HI Inc for Inc	82.02	86.25	+ 1.40	3.87
Investment Trust	113.51	119.36	+ 2.14	
UK Smaller Cos	108.62	114.22†	+ 1.02	1.22
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	335.20	355.50	+ 4.20	3.49
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	661.53	703.00	+13.33	0.21
America (Acc)	775.25	823.85	+15.62	0.21
Amer Smllr Cos	58.28	62.35	+ 0.96	
Asia	55.43	59.41	0.23	
European	417.49	442.33	0.06	0.69
Japan	237.25	252.34	- 8.90	
Jap Smllr Cos	34.00	36.96	- 1.79	
Major UK Cos	115.05	122.75†	+ 2.18	2.10
Smllr UK Cos	396.98	432.17	+ 4.62	1.09
UK Equity Inc	182.56	195.10	+ 2.50	3.70
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	52.15	54.46†	+ 1.31	
Cash	48.21	50.21†	+ 0.02	3.15
Emerging Mkts	49.58	51.78†	+ 0.89	
Europe	62.49	65.26†	+ 0.96	
Global Fixed Int #	52.44	54.76†	+ 0.50	5.60
Japan	44.39	46.35†	- 0.89	
North America	68.82	71.87†	+ 2.61	
UK	63.93	66.76†	+ 1.27	0.51
UK Equity Inc #	60.94	63.64†	+ 1.47	4.12
UK Fixed Int #	50.99	53.25†	+ 0.40	6.33
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	51.43	53.79	+ 0.97	
Pep Inc Port #	49.91	51.71	+ 1.00	4.27
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	89.68	94.40	+ 0.08	
Gilt	99.59	104.83	+ 0.38	
Managed	115.19	121.24	- 0.35	.
Portfolio	50.38	53.03	+ 0.97	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices. 01733 282 828 Gen Enq. 01733 390 000				
United States	119.00	126.60	+ 3.80	0.24
Pacific Basin	83.15	89.31	+ 0.62	0.25
High Inc Dist	156.20	165.80	+ 3.10	3.98
Ryl Life Intl Cash	64.83	68.47	+ 0.79	3.78
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	79.00	84.14†	+ 0.95	0.12
Ryl Life Intl Spec	74.11	78.84	+ 0.79	
UK Emerging Cos	142.50	154.00	+ 1.80	1.35
UK Index Trckg	194.70	206.90	+ 4.20	3.60
European	172.10	184.40	+ 2.50	0.25
Managed	179.40	192.80	+ 3.10	1.02
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	195.70	208.10†	+ 4.90	1.57
European Growth	140.40	148.90	+ 1.90	2.18
Far East Growth	147.20	156.60†	+ 3.60	1.72
Japan Growth	131.90	140.20	3.70	
Special Sits	241.90	257.30	+10.20	1.10
UK Growth	98.58	104.80	+ 2.40	1.83
Trafon General	289.50	308.00	+ 3.10	1.42
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	178.40	188.80	+ 0.30	0.71
Gt Euro Prog Inc	411.40	435.30	+ 3.00	0.40
-do- Accum	642.90	680.30	+ 4.70	0.40
Growth Inc	156.30	165.40	+ 0.80	0.52
-do- Accum	160.30	169.60	+ 0.80	0.52
International Inc	407.00	430.70	+ 2.60	0.39
-do- Accum	562.90	595.70	+ 3.70	0.39
Nth Am & Intl Inc	399.40	422.60	+ 8.90	0.36
UK Gen Prog Inc	251.70	266.40	+ 2.20	0.98
-do- Accum	288.30	305.10	+ 2.50	0.98
UK High Inc Inc	145.30	153.80	+ 1.40	4.68
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	122.91	130.75	+ 1.07	0.75
European Gwth	89.96	95.70	- 0.31	1.00
Global Bd	61.96	65.47	+ 0.15	5.00
Japan	56.13	59.71	- 1.51	
UK Gwth	88.16	93.77	- 0.23	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients. 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	90.38	96.15	+ 1.12	3.15
Amer Smllr Cos	150.20	159.80	+ 4.40	
Capital Portfolio	151.00	160.60	+ 2.30	0.93
Cash	134.40	134.40	+ 0.10	5.18
China Dragon	63.58	67.64	+ 0.86	1.32
Commodity	150.70	160.30	+ 2.40	.
Emerging Mkts	37.67	40.07	+ 0.27	0.30
Energy Inds	163.00	173.40	+ 2.20	
European Gwth	236.70	251.80	+ 0.70	0.29
Euro Inc & Gwth #	95.49	101.60†	- 0.20	1.86
Euro Smllr Cos	75.24	80.04	+ 0.31	0.23
Exempt Income #	152.00	154.90†	+ 2.10	3.73
Extra Income #	55.40	57.21†	+ 0.63	6.19
Far Eastern	112.60	119.80	- 1.50	
FE Sm Cos	45.51	48.41	- 0.92	
Financial Secs	286.90	305.30	+ 5.20	0.80
Gold & Exploration	109.20	116.20	+ 1.10	
Growth	416.40	418.50	+ 4.60	1.70
High Income #	48.70	48.70†	+ 0.71	7.50
High Yield #	257.70	274.10	+ 4.40	3.03
Intl Bond	171.90	181.50	- 0.40	5.87
ITU	236.70	251.80	+ 4.40	0.75
Income #	130.10	138.40†	+ 1.90	3.70
Japan Growth	179.10	190.40	- 6.40	
Japan Smaller	194.80	207.20	- 6.30	
Korea	57.26	60.91	- 0.48	
Latin America	40.76	43.36†	+ 0.90	0.34
Masterfund	64.89	65.22	- 0.62	0.97
Premier Eq Gth	156.80	166.80	+ 4.10	1.06
Premier Eq Inc #	349.30	371.60	+ 4.70	3.45
Scotyields #	277.00	294.70	+ 4.10	2.80
Select Intl	156.80	165.70	+ 0.40	0.57
Smaller Cos Inc #	261.50	278.20	+ 2.00	3.57
SE Asia	53.33	56.67	+ 0.11	0.08
Southern Africa	56.07	59.59†	- 0.63	1.37
UK & O'seas	195.10	207.60	+ 1.69	1.07
UK Eqty Gth	78.69	83.71	+ 1.15	1.54
UK Eqty Inc #	248.80	264.70†	+ 4.00	4.16
UK Gth & Inc #	282.30	300.30†	+ 4.20	3.35
UK Sm Cos	59.57	63.32	+ 0.43	1.26
US Growth	212.18	225.60	+ 4.70	
Univ Growth	159.10	169.30	+ 0.40	0.72
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	336.23	355.73	+11.90	0.59
-do- Accum	370.83	392.34	+13.13	0.59
European Gwth	91.98	97.43	+ 2.37	0.80
Euro Smllr Cos	113.56	120.76	+ 1.83	0.20
Far Eastern Gth	112.39	119.88†	+ 1.60	
-do- Accum	114.56	122.19†	+ 1.63	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	52.65	55.47	+ 0.39	7.47
Global Bond #	51.75	53.47†	+ 0.57	6.48
-do- Accum #	61.65	63.71†	+ 0.68	6.48
Global Emer Mkts	57.24	61.58	+ 1.33	
-do- Accum	57.79	61.64	+ 1.34	
Income #	412.51	440.01	+12.76	4.95
-do- Accum #	£13.66	£14.57	+42.24	4.95
Japan Smllr Cos	467.61	498.79†	6.32	
-do- Accum	468.55	499.78†	- 6.84	
Japan Enterprise	68.46	73.02	- 1.02	
Pacific Gwth	159.29	169.90†	+ 5.16	0.61
-do- Accum	165.00	175.99†	+ 5.19	0.61
Portfolio	94.23	100.51†	+ 2.16	1.76
-do- Accum	104.91	111.79†	+ 2.40	1.76
Seoul	48.67	51.91	+ 0.41	
-do- Accum	48.67	51.91	+ 0.41	
Smaller Co	314.41	335.37	+10.54	0.55
Strategic Inc	100.00	106.65†	+ 2.11	2.29
Strategic Acc	101.43	108.17†	+ 2.14	2.29
Tokyo	129.82	138.63	- 2.16	
-do- Accum	131.29	140.02	- 2.18	
UK Enterprise	326.60	348.37†	+ 6.70	2.36
-do- Accum	403.60	430.49†	+ 8.29	2.36
UK Equity	297.90	317.75†	+ 3.83	2.52
-do- Accum	602.12	642.25†	+17.44	2.58
UK Smllr Cos	222.90	237.76	+ 5.32	
-do- Accum	222.30	237.16	+ 5.39	
Institutional Funds				
European	292.76	304.50†	- 7.77	1.45
-do- Accum	330.79	343.01†	[illegible]	1.45
Euro Smllr Cos	37.99	39.13	+ 0.10	1.07
-do- Accum	40.76	42.45	- 0.75	1.07
Global Equity Inc	92.87	96.73	[illegible]	0.92
Japan Smllr Cos	40.32	41.99†	0.17	0.05
-do- Accum	40.70	42.40†	0.16	0.05
Mngd Balanced	214.74	224.10	+ 4.69	[illegible]
-do- Accum	262.04	272.95	+ 5.46	[illegible]
Overseas Equity	222.93	232.76†	+ 5.45	[illegible]
-do- Accum	234.50	244.62†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oseas Smllr Cos	152.64	159.17	+ 3.18	0.57
-do- Accum	160.11	166.74	- 2.73	0.57
Pacific	202.98	211.66	+ 0.51	[illegible]
-do- Accum	213.09	224.66	+ 4.88	[illegible]
Recovery	623.20	625.36†	+36.40	3.07

هكذا من الاصل

Equities end lower in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
566	419	**Allied Domecq**	448	+ 2	6.6	17.0
625	500	Bulmer (HP)	593		2.8	19.9
131	96	Burn Stewart	101		6.2	21.8
775	615	Glenmorangie A	766		2.0	19.6
464	411	**Grand Met**	450½	+ 2	4.7	19.1
493	435	**Guinness**	471	5	4.0	15.4
378	315	Highland Dist	369	2		17.2
195	150	Macallan-Glen	153		1.2	31.4
803	655	Matthew Clark	697	+ 30	4.3	33.2
141	93	Merrydown	121		4.6	
2612½	1706½	SA Breweries	1750		2.0	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3665½	2743½	ABN-AMRO	3587½	+ 25	3.9	17.2
663	528	**Abbey Nat**	584	- 10	5.0	10.6
385	315	Allied Irish	364	- 5	5.0	10.4
336	285	Aus New Z	326	4	5.7	8.0
5443¼	3843½	Bank America	5300	6¼		
316	227½	**Bank Scotland**	246½	+ ½	3.5	10.4
904	683	**Barclays**	888	- 10	4.0	9.6
488	413	Bk of Ireland	460	- 6	4.1	
492	379	Cater Allen	423		8.9	12.5
5637½	4031½	Citicorp	5587½	+ 37½		
392	318	Close Bros	337	+ 3	3.4	14.9
£157¼	£131½	Commerzbk	£151½	- 153¼	3.5	
1350	1065½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1087½		0.5	
3412½	2950	Deutsche Bk	3268½	+ 50	2.3	
803¼	487½	Espirito Santo	709¼		5.0	9.5
1507	1200½	Fuji Bank Y	1204¼	- 14½	0.4	
472	337	Gerrard Nat	340	+ 2	8.5	10.8
252	196	Hambros	236		4.0	
1169	931	**HSBC**	1147	- 6½	4.2	10.7
1135	930	HSBC 10	1115	4	4.2	10.4
421	385	Irish Perm	418		3.0	11.5
177	143	King Shaxson	165		6.6	14.7
458	405	Leopold J	448		5.6	15.7
355½	234½	**Lloyds TSB**	345	- 2½	4.3	14.0
640	566	Nat Aust Bk	600	- 8	7.2	7.7
711	605½	**Nat West**	663	+ 5	5.1	9.3
66	50	Rea Brothers	58		2.5	24.0
586	468	**Ryl Bk Scot**	504	2	4.2	11.1
1380	1185	**Schroders**	1328		1.5	18.5
1128	850	Schroders N/V	995	- 3	2.0	13.8
122	99½	Singer & Fried	113½	+ 2½	4.4	9.4
719	547	**Stand Chart**	702	9	2.1	15.6
106	85½	Union	99	- 1	3.8	10.5
£174¼	£131½	Wells Fargo	£155½	- 143½	2.2	
329½	264	Westpac	294½	- 2½	4.8	
360	268	Wintrust	358	+ 3	4.5	

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
90	36	Abrdn Stk Hsc	60			5.1
387	263	Ascot Hldgs	338	+ 5		12.8
839	702	**Bass**	875	- 5	3.5	17.8
70	40	Bb for the Bar	42		4.9	
177	161	Balmoral Brel	162		4.1	15.1
126½	92	City Centre Rest	123½		2.3	23.3
621	403	Compass Gp	547	- 1	1.8	20.1
265	190	Eldridge P & A	264		2.3	24.3
540	413	Fuller Sm A	510		3.3	17.4
636	546	Greenalls Gp	563	3	3.2	15.5
671	567½	Greene King	620		3.1	
285	224	Grosvenor Inns	275		3.3	
258	204	Groupe Chez Gerard	232		1.4	22.5
357	299	Hardy Hanson	303		4.2	11.3
3475	3050	Holt J	3075		2.3	16.7
72	45	Inn Business	64		1.1	30.0
355	313	Marstons	318		2.3	15.5
353½	275	Mitchells & Butlers	294		3.1	12.0

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
528	426	Brammer	510		3.3	10.9
25	18	Budnand Gp	21½		1.0	
113	76	Ard Fittings	100		4.5	13.7
290	245	Cattles	285		5.0	22.6
166	105	Camtale	154		7.8	10.0
107½	74	Charles Sidney	96		4.9	13.5
74	54½	Clark (Ltd)	70		3.8	
404½	276½	Cowie▲	367	1	3.7	12.6
152	127½	Dag Motor	145		6.6	10.1
163	125½	Dinmore	129		2.4	13.8
434	329	Diploma	343	3	5.3	12.1
407	328	Electrocomponents	380	- 8	2.3	23.1
314	177	Europ. Elec	200	- 2	3.1	
134	65	Eurodis	100		5.2	15.0
105	76	European Mot	102	+ 3	6.4	11.5
375	266	Evans Halshaw	309	+ 1	6.7	11.2
67	48	Fife Indmar	50		8.2	6.9
358	248	Frasier Gp	273		2.5	16.4
30½	16½	Gardiner	29½	+ ½	3.8	11.6
76	43½	Glencrosston	74		1.5	54.4
91	76	Gowrings	77		4.5	11.7
292	216	Harris (Philip)	264		3.1	19.8
293	220	Heatlam	278		2.2	22.1
200	132	Holders Tech	178		4.7	16.7
190	153	I&A Intl	183		1.7	16.6
316	231	Inchcape	278	+ 7	4.1	
78	23	Jack. (Wm)	75		2.9	29.0
251	169	Kwik-Fit	246	- 4	2.5	17.3
399	239	Lex Service	371	+ 7	5.7	11.9
156	119	Lookers	129		7.9	7.4
17	10½	Malcolm Gp	11½		7.0	12.2
9½	6½	Meadow	6½		1.4	10.6
47	31	Merrydale	39		0.6	
565	443	Nortobin	500		1.9	14.6
349	230	Northumbria	295	+ 4	0.9	10.8
162	106	PCT	125		7.7	12.1
341	277	Pendragon	315		3.6	16.0
211	145	Perry Gp	185	- 1	5.4	11.0
745	602	Premier Farnell	675	5	2.2	16.6
197	135	Quicks Group	183		4.2	15.7
315	185	RCA	261	4	1.9	33.1
3	2	Reece	2½			
61	43	Rotican	44		5.6	10.2
4½	2	Roz Gp	3½			
56	46½	SIP Ind	51½		4.1	11.0
195	170	Saltire	143		0.9	19.1
323	296	Tate Products	332	+ 1	3.8	
41	30	Toner Hire	35		4.6	18.4
223	125	UNICOM	217	+ 7	2.4	19.1
332½	263½	Lady (Regn)▲	304		2.7	
462	325	Wholesale Ftgs	460	+ 10	3.6	
49	35½	Wilshaw	42½	+ 1½	3.4	8.5
156	76	Wyko	145	- 10	2.0	
133	104	Young (H)	118		4.2	10.9

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1¼	0½	Anglo Utd	0½			
388	298	Autobahn	310		2.1	10.4
1066	804	Broken Hill	857	4	2.9	18.9
340	229	**BTR**	248		7.1	10.8
596	471	**BAT**	509	½	6.2	9.8
224	173½	Berisford Intl	177		2.5	12.9
136	109	Bibby (J)	120	2	6.2	8.7
64½	50½	Buckley Im	62½	½	7.4	3.2
972	810	Charter	871	+ 4	4.2	12.2
228	247	**Cookson**	267	2	3.7	14.0
193	141	Coralli	180		6.3	11.4
253	204	DCC	269		3.2	10.6
140	113	Gevorgian Hdg	125		6.1	13.9
220	157½	**Hanson**	168½	+ 2	8.9	7.9
172½	121	Harrison Crsfld	128	- 1	8.8	12.4
439½	379½	Hutch Whamp	393½	3½	2.0	21.1
563½	389½	Jardine Math	418	3½	3.9	
217½	162	Lonrho	168		3.5	20.0
191	164	McLeod Russel	173	+ 2	4.7	14.8
478	369	Powell Duffryn	433	- 8	7.2	
146	120	Rope	125	- 3	8.2	9.5

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	45	Secure Retire	45		2.8	23.6
320	258	Shend Hldgs	262	- 3	3.3	11.1
92	68	Shorco	73		7.2	11.2
378	343	Spandex	365	+ 2	1.0	22.4
159	116	Tay Homes	117		7.5	10.7
175	115	Taylor Woodrw	163	- 1	2.2	24.4
508	408	Tilbury Dougls	490		5.6	14.7
16½	10½	Try Group	12½			
103	74	Vibroplant	81		6.5	
111	65	Waterhomes	96		5.9	60.1
57	38	Ward Hldgs	47		3.0	10.9
223	170	Westbury	210	+ 1	3.6	18.9
9¼	4½	Wiggins	9¼	+ ¼		63.7
190	159	Wilson (C)	162		3.5	20.1
473	354	Wilson Bowdn	417		3.0	19.8
160	129	Wimpey G	134		5.1	

BUILDING MATERIALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
15	5½	Allbrighton	6			
367	284	BPB Indt	353	- 2	3.4	17.5
124	97	Baggeridge Brk	114		3.4	21.9
42	31	Beacon	32½	- ½	7.6	14.5
65	47	Blockleys	48			
376	322	**Blue Circle**	374	+ 3	4.2	28.1
97	77	Breedon PLC	92	+ 1	6.6	15.0
130	108	Br Dredging	124		5.6	14.3
673	473	CRH	624	- 4	1.9	16.8
48	32½	Cakebread Rby	41		6.1	11.5
173	140	Cape	149½	+ ½	9.2	10.7
247	195½	Caradon	202	- 1	5.9	20.0
127	106	Caradon pf	108	- 1½	8.4	
39	19	Chetaln Gp	39	+ 1	4.9	61.4
215	158	Dyson (J&J)	203		2.8	
97	70	Dyson 'A'	88		6.6	
238	203	Ewan	203		5.5	13.1
183½	121½	Flare	145			16.0
95	82	Gibbs & Dandy	88		5.0	9.1
209	131½	Graham Grp	136	+ 2	5.2	14.6
406	359	Halstead (J)	361	+ 1	3.0	16.7
321	253	Hepworth	262	+ 2	7.1	13.7
66	36	Hewetson	63		5.1	13.9
251	215	Heywd Wm	232		7.8	12.1
79	60	Ibstock	66½		3.8	9.4
500	335	Johnston	483		2.8	12.5
88	65	Litteshall	73		8.3	9.3
155	111	Marley	122	- 1	4.8	13.9
184	133	Marshalls	139		4.7	12.2
471	349	Meyer Intl	372	+ 2	3.9	31.8
149	114	Newman Tnks	117		7.4	13.8
106	83	Norcros	84			58.5
29	16	Phoenix Timber	23		1.1	
223	175	Pilkington	192		3.7	11.2
206	174½	Polypipe	193		1.7	17.9
1109	928	RMC Gp	1030		3.0	13.3
438	350	Redland	425	- 1	4.9	16.2
123	84½	Roskel	110		5.2	10.3
153	87½	Ruberoid	106	+ 6	7.2	10.2
140	102	Rugby Group	105	- 1	4.3	19.1
131	113	Russell (A)	114		3.0	16.1
256	196	SIG	222	- 1	3.7	11.1
4½	3	SWP	3½			
203	156	Sharpe & Fisher	203		3.2	16.7
27	12½	Spring Ram	15½	+ 1		
230	175	Streamline Hldgs	215		4.5	17.9
136	98	Tarmac	102		6.7	16.7
147	97	Titon	100		6.0	10.9
458	350	Travis Perkins	426	+ 1	2.7	18.5
40	28	Tudor	31		4.0	14.1
489	415	Wolseley	438	- 2	2.8	15.2

CHEMICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
188	156	Albright & Wil	182		4.5	15.4
139	113	Allied Colloids	125	+ 3	2.8	21.8
210	150	Ambec Ind	150		4.8	10.6
105	66	Amberley Gp	93		1.9	21.9
1893¼	1443½	BASF DM	1790½	+ 16½	2.4	
949	872	**BOC**	893	5	3.8	16.6
310	268	BTP	285	- 6	4.9	15.7

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
38½	25	Intelek	34½		2.9	43.8
131	94	Kode	117	+ 3	1.9	10.9
57	34	LPA Ind	41		5.6	9.0
305	280	MTL Instr	305		2.0	18.5
160	39	Magnum Power©	49			
298	245	Meggitt-Swt	280	+ 5	2.6	
72	48	Microvitec	53		2.0	16.9
472	340	Mitel	394	- 3		
69	36	Neotronics	40		2.7	
543	405	Oxford Inst	483		1.7	17.4
180	119	Pacer Systems	126		3.3	
131	97	Peek	126		3.4	19.0
2765¼	1853½	Philips Lmp nv	2128½	- 12½	2.9	7.4
229	141	Plasmec	208		3.0	12.7
204	146	Pressac	178		2.5	18.6
48	33	Prestwick	42			21.6
470	236½	Psion	294	+ 2	0.6	34.0
348	275	Racal Electt	295		2.5	19.6
103	78	Radamec	96	- 2	3.1	19.7
391	221	Rainford	332		7.6	
560	380	Renishaw	496	+ 1	1.8	19.9
6	1¼	Rodime	2½	+ ¼		
310	256	Rotork	275	+ 1	2.7	14.0
427	317	Servomex	375	- 3	2.5	21.7
92	62	Silvermines	84		1.7	20.1
47	27	Soundtracs©	36		3.2	
3990¼	3003½	TDK	3665½	- 3½	0.9	
29	6	TDS Circuits©	23½	+ ½		
116	94	TGI	115		3.5	13.0
166	135	TLG	148	+ 1	3.6	14.5
79	48	Tadpole Tech	50	- 1		
134	51	Telemetrix	60	- 1	3.0	12.3
870	330	Telspec	423	+ 18	1.6	23.6
245	153	Thorpe FW	196	- 2	2.6	11.8
36	20	Total Systems	33		3.8	20.6
380	270	Tunstall	290	+ 12	2.0	18.0
16½	9½	Verity	11½		1.6	12.7
273	211	Vero	211		3.0	21.9
460	383	Volex	455		5.7	13.8
36	17½	Walmore	28			
172	120	Whessoe	120		4.3	16.2

ENGINEERING

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
363	277	AIM	314		2.2	17.1
96½	58	APV	62½	+ ½	5.4	17.9
99	66	ASW	67		7.5	
457	380	Alumasc	395		2.4	17.5
175	106	Amst	111		2.5	7.4
201	170	Ash & Lacy	175		4.8	14.3
838	638	Atlas Equip	663		4.1	17.5
148	113	Ayrshire Metal	113		5.6	8.6
351	284	BBA	314		2.4	21.2
163	133	BM	141		5.9	12.8
145	85½	Babcock	86		3.5	
8½	6	Bailey (CH)	8			
144	98	Baynes (Charles)	137		2.3	20.5
38	24	Beauford	32	+ 1	1.6	
80	38	Bencon Group	48			
105	88	Bilam	90		7.4	
564	403	Bodycote	517		1.6	23.9
48	35½	Booth Inds	43			
26½	17	Brasway	23½	- ½	4.4	
130	98	Bridon	101		5.4	22.2
999	787	Br Aerospace	935	- 3	1.7	23.2
201	161	Br Steel	178½	- 3½	7.0	4.8
15½	11½	Brooke Tool	14		2.7	12.8
38	28	Brunel	30½		2.0	11.6
113	73	Bullough	74		9.2	
143	92	Burnfield	123		3.4	14.6
315	222	Castle Eng	290	+ 5	5.6	11.8
236	171	Castings	236		2.3	15.8
158	140	Chamberlin Hill	140		6.7	9.1
455	358	Chemring	390		3.6	15.2
290	195	Clyde Blowers	278	+ 10	3.0	62.0
651	471	Cobham	618		2.0	
665	565	Cohen (A)	560		2.7	7.0
194	163	Concentric	170	+ 1	4.9	11.7
268	215	Cook (Wm)	248		4.2	9.3
236	190	Daniel Brown	203		4.7	13.2
395	320	EIS	328		5.0	11.5
31	16	Eleco	16		2.0	9.0
131	74	Elliott (B)	102		3.7	10.1

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
103	82	Herald C	84			
92	71	High Income T	91½		8.9	
157	127	H Gavett Smlr	144½		1.9	61.4
110½	93½	HTR Jap Smllr	101	- ½		
16	9	IBS Ed	12			
147	114	IBS UK Smll	142		2.6	32.5
148	129	Inv Capl	139	+ 1	4.8	24.6
157	101	Inf Biotech	121	- 4	1.0	
70	31	Inl Wts	43			
115	86	Inll C	101	- 1		
114	93½	INVESCO Asia	99	- ½	0.8	
66	43	INVESCO Blue	44		23.9	4.5

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
86	50	Clivedon	77		2.6	14.9
85	55	Clubhaus	70			
251	163	Eurocamp	166		8.3	8.0
208	139	Euro Disney	158			
183	148	Euro Leisure	167½			4.6
19	13	Famingtod	13½			
86	49½	First Choice	68	+ 4	7.2	
400	345	First Leisure	369	+ 1	2.7	21.3
190	142	Friendly Hotels	165		4.3	22.0
879	619	**Granada**	838	+ 1	1.8	20.3
57	25	Hi-Tec Sports	37			14.9
207	148	Hornby	206		2.7	

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1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
181	135	INVESCO Eng Inl	169		0.7	57.0
92	75½	INVESCO Jap Dis	84½		0.4	
137	108	INVESCO Korea	111½			
63½	52	INVESCO Tokyo	54½	- ½		
95½	66	J Fry 2nd U	65		13.2	
79	68	J Fry Euro U	74		7.5	13.5
260	224	JF Fledg Jap	238½	- 1		
88	74	Jupiter Ex Inct	79	+ 1	12.3	8.7
7	4	Jupiter Ex IncWt	6			
83	70	Jupiter Grt Cap	76		13.1	9.5
39	24½	Jupiter Grt Ptd	27½			
128	108	Jupiter Intl Grt	127		3.9	
282	252	Kleinwort Chrl	281		2.4	49.6

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
553	423	Hazlewood	501	+ 3	2.3	18.4
292	201	Jarvis Hotels	259½	+ 7½	3.1	
31½	23½	Kunick	26½	+ ½	3.1	22.3
207	143	**Ladbroke**	197	+ 4½	3.8	30.6
300	212½	London Clubs▼	300	+ 3	3.2	19.9
489	188	Man Utd	442		1.3	14.3
96½	77½	Mandarin Orntl	91	- 1½	3.9	19.7
345	278	Millennium & Cop	313		0.3	23.9
142	89	Northern	128		3.9	14.5
146	114	Pelican Leisure	138		5.2	
38	28	Queensborough	32	+ 1		
32	11½	Queens Moat	17½	+ ½		5.6
547	439	**Rank Org**	449	+ 8	4.5	14.8

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
353	289	Lowland	294		4.5	26.1
648	573	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	600	+ 2		
114	87	M&G 2nd Dual In	90			3.2
3150	2903	M&G Dual Cap	3045			
235	149	M&G Dual Inc	150			1.9
66	55	M&G Inc Geared	55½		11.9	
33	27½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Co	27½	- ½		
34	26½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	28		23.7	
133	122	M&G Inc Package	122		6.4	
89½	65½	M&G Inc Zero Div	69½	+ ½		
25	21	M&G Rec Cap	22½			
50	44½	M&G Rec Geared	46½		11.6	
26½	23	M&G Rec Inc	24½		21.9	4.5
148	133	M&G Rec Packgs	139		3.9	
96	88½	M&G Rec Zero Div	95	+ 1		
144	114	M Currie Euro	139		0.7	
112	98½	M Currie Japan	100	- 1		
167	143	M Currie Pac	150	- 1	0.8	
242	222	Majedie	238	+ 3	3.3	36.6
290	235	Merchants	263½		6.2	21.8
104	91	Mercury Euro Pv	103½	- ½	2.3	39.8

MEDIA

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Abbott Mead	579		1.9	30.4
305	165	Adscene	173	+ 7	6.1	8.9
60½	37½	Aegis Gp	58	- ½		21.0
18	14	BBB Designs©	16			
425	273	Barbour Index	380			3.2
9	5½	Bertelsm	6½			
340	325	Black (A&C)	330		5.3	12.9
463	238	Blenheim Gp	419	+ 13	3.1	20.2
318	248	Border TV	283	+ 5	2.6	
410	255	Bristol	410		4.3	21.9
510	376	BSkyB	507	+ 8	1.2	47.0
188	133	CIA Gp	171	+ 4	1.6	19.7
27	16½	Caledonian Med	23½	- ½		
734	533	Capital Radio	645	+ 4	2.1	24.3
534	379½	Carlton Comm	472	+ 1	2.7	15.9
568	363	Chrysalis	493		0.7	

OTHER FINANCIAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
143	95	Aberdeen Tst	95		3.7	18.7
118	77	BWD	113	+ 2	6.0	12.2
41	34½	Berry Bch Mkt	41		2.4	
345	252	Baelec Ins	309	+ 6		
205	151	Brewin Dolphin	186		4.8	12.0
805	700	Caledonia	739		3.0	24.0
2500	1700	Camellia	2400		1.7	20.0
276	213	Cattles	244	- 1	3.5	17.6
42	18	Christie	36			
147	90	EFT Group	113		2.3	13.4
725	635	EFM	638		4.9	15.6
118	85	Exco	95	- 1	11.8	11.5

BRITISH FUNDS

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
220½	219¹¹⁄₃₂	Treas 2% 1996	220¼		0.91	5.78
103¼	100¹¹⁄₁₆	Conv 10% 1996	100¹⁵⁄₁₆	- ⅛	9.91	5.68
101⁵⁄₈	100¹⁄₈	Treas 7% 1997	101⅛	- ⅛	6.93	5.84
107⅛	103⅞	Treas 13¼% 1997	103⅞		12.84	5.61
104⅞	102⅝	Exch 10½% 1997	102⅝	- ⅛	10.26	5.75
104⅜	102¾	Treas 8¾% 1997	102¾	- ⅛	8.52	5.92
114⅝	110⅝	Exch 15% 1997	110⅝	- ⅛	13.59	5.91
106⅝	104⅛	Exch 9¾% 1998	104⅜	- ⅛	9.30	6.14
102⅞	100⅛	Treas 7¼% 1998	101⅛	- ⅛	7.15	6.26
101	99⅝	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100⅛	- ⅛	6.74	5.80
116⅝	112⅜	Treas 14% 1998-01	112⅝	- ⅛	12.42	6.28
122⅛	117⅛	Treas 15½% 1998	117¾	- ⅛	13.16	6.40
114⅜	111⅛	Exch 12% 1998	111⅛	- ⅛	10.80	6.57
108⅝	105⅜	Treas 9½% 1999	106⅛	- ⅛	8.94	6.82
116⅛	112⅜	Exch 12¼% 1999	113⅛	- ⅛	10.83	6.69
112⅝	108⅝	Treas 10½% 1999	109⅝	- ⅛	9.60	6.71
98⅞	96	Treas 6% 1999	97⅞	- ⅛	6.13	6.75
112⅛	108⅝	Conv 10¼% 1999	109⅝	- ⅛	9.35	6.87
108⅜	104⅜	Conv 9% 2000	106⅝		8.47	6.97
105⅛	101⅞	Treas 8% 2000	103⅛	+ ⅛	7.74	7.07
124⅜	119⅝	Treas 13% 2000	120	- ⅛	10.83	7.05
114	109⅛	Treas 10% 2001	110⅛		9.03	7.17
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
101⅛	96⅛	Treas 7% 2001	98⅝	+ ⅛	7.07	7.23
114⅛	108⅛	Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅛		8.76	7.40
105⅜	99⅜	Treas 8% 2003	102⅜	+ ⅛	7.78	7.46
117⅛	110⅛	Treas 10% 2003	113⅛		8.82	7.52
119⅜	114⅜	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116⅛		9.90	7.30
83⅝	78⅛	Fund 3½% 1999-04	81⅝	+ ⅛	4.29	6.51
114⅛	107⅛	Conv 9½% 2004	110⅝	+ ⅛	8.56	7.66
96⅜	91⅛	Treas 6¾% 2004	94⅛	+ ⅛	7.15	7.67
108⅜	101⅛	Treas 8½% 2005	105	+ ⅛	8.10	7.73
114⅛	108⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	111		8.56	7.73
131⅛	123⅝	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126⅞	+ ⅛	9.86	7.64
101⅞	94⅝	Treas 7½% 2006	97⅝	+ ⅛	7.66	7.79
103⅛	96⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	99⅛	+ ⅛	7.79	7.81
104⅝	97⅛	Treas 8% 2002-06	101⅛	- ⅛	7.91	7.78
125⅞	118⅝	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121		9.71	7.57
108⅝	101⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	104⅝		8.12	7.85
138⅝	130⅝	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133⅛	+ ⅛	10.13	7.64
112⅛	105	Treas 9% 2008	108⅛		8.30	7.90
104⅛	96⅝	Treas 8% 2009	100⅛	- ⅛	7.97	7.95
LONGS (over 15 years)						
88⅛	81⅛	Treas 6¼% 2010	84⅝		7.36	8.04
112⅛	104⅛	Conv 9% 2011	108⅛	- ⅛	8.31	8.02
113⅛	104⅞	Treas 9% 2012	108⅞		8.31	8.06
82⅛	75⅛	Treas 5½% 2008-12	79⅛	+ ⅛	6.96	7.83
103⅞	95⅛	Treas 8% 2013	99⅛	+ ⅛	8.07	8.08
101⅛	93⅛	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	96⅞		7.99	8.09
103⅛	95⅛	Treas 8% 2015	99⅛	+ ⅛	8.07	8.08
111⅛	102⅛	Treas 8¾% 2017	106⅛	- ⅛	8.25	8.13
141⅛	130⅛	Exch 12% 2013-17	134⅝		8.89	8.18
99⅛	95⅛	Tr 8% 2021	98⅞	+ ⅛	8.09	8.10
UNDATED						
45⅛	41⅛	War Ln 3½%	42⅛	- ⅛	8.21	
32⅛	29⅛	Treas 2½%	30⅛	+ ⅛	8.15	
50⅛	46⅛	Consols 4%	48⅛	- ⅛	8.31	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
113⅛	111⅛	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113⅝		1.03	2.54
182⅛	176⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2001	182⅛	+ ⅛	2.90	3.42
177⅛	171⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2003	177⅛	+ ⅛	3.17	3.57
116⅛	112⅛	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	115⅛		3.24	3.59
185⅛	179⅛	Treas IL 2% 2006	185⅛	+ ⅛	3.35	3.62
167⅛	161⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2009	166⅛	- ⅛	3.45	3.68
173⅛	166⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2011	172⅛	- ⅛	3.51	3.71
143	137⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2013	141⅛	- ⅛	3.56	3.73
152⅛	145⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	150⅛	- ⅛	3.58	3.76
146	138⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2020	143⅛	- ⅛	3.64	3.78
122	115⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	119⅛	- ⅛	3.64	3.77
120⅛	113⅛	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	117⅛	- ⅛	3.64	3.77

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
58	18	Abacus Recruit	43			
213	95	Cafe Inns	178		1.8	14.1
86	58	Country Gdns	85		2.0	16.4
1700	860	Dawson Hdgs	1635		2.5	14.3
188	43	Firecrest	60			25.6
35½	14	Freepages	31½	- ½		
117	92	Megalomedia#	94			
475	45	Memory Corp	51			
147	86½	Old English Pub▲	116		1.1	50.7
445	360	Pet City	385			
595	524	Southern News	535	+ 2	3.7	14.1
68	50	Southern Vectis	68			
315	122	Surrey Fr Ins	267		0.9	31.4
79	45	Trocadero	79	+ 4		

Source: FT Information

© USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

MOTOR RACING: CHAMPION-IN-WAITING FEELS AT HOME IN HUNGARY AS HIS TEAM CONTEMPLATES ANOTHER CONSTRUCTORS' TITLE

Hill laps up growing attention in practice

FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN BUDAPEST

CLIVE JAMES is here at the Hungaroring making a television documentary about him, the people of Bulgaria are awaiting a visit from him on Monday and cameramen, journalists and photographers are flocking about him in droves. Damon Hill is drawing new disciples with every race so yesterday he spoke to them in quasi-mystical terms.

It was at this circuit in the hills above the city, after all, where Nigel Mansell clinched his sole world drivers' title four years ago; here, too, where Hill claimed his debut Formula One win one year later. A win over the 77 laps of the Hungarian Grand Prix tomorrow will bring the Englishman within spitting distance of his own world crown. There is almost a ring of destiny about the place.

"There is a feel-good factor about it," Hill said. "It is a circuit I feel very familiar with. I feel very in tune with the way the track runs. I feel able to flow with it and react to it more than at other places. I don't really know what it is but it is there."

It worked for him again yesterday, too, in the second session of practice. Much of the morning was spent in eerie silence as teams and drivers engaged in a phoney war, reluctant to go out first and so damage their tyres cleaning the dust and the dirt off the track for the benefit of others.

When they eventually emerged, it was Michael Schumacher who set the pace and outstripped Hill by more than a second in the lap times. Then Hill produced a blistering lap with only five minutes of the afternoon session to go. He pipped the German by just over 0.02sec and gave himself a fillip for the crucial sole qualifying session today.

Some sought to suggest the time showed how close the world champion's Ferrari would push Hill this weekend but Schumacher put a different spin on the respective performances. "What you see is not the real situation," he said. "Damon set his quickest time on old tyres while mine were in a better condition. Pole position is not out of the question, but my main objective is a place on the front row."

Hill has little need to worry about the German, anyway. Schumacher is 44 points behind in the championship race and will no longer be even a mathematical threat if he does not win or come second tomorrow. Of more concern to the Englishman was the performance of Jacques Villeneuve, his team-mate and only realistic challenger.

Villeneuve had been expected to struggle here on a circuit that replicates many of the tight, twisting features of Monaco, a track that he could not get to grips with last May. For the majority of practice, it seemed as though the song remained the same, but, in the last minutes, the Canadian brought himself to within a mere 0.2sec of Hill.

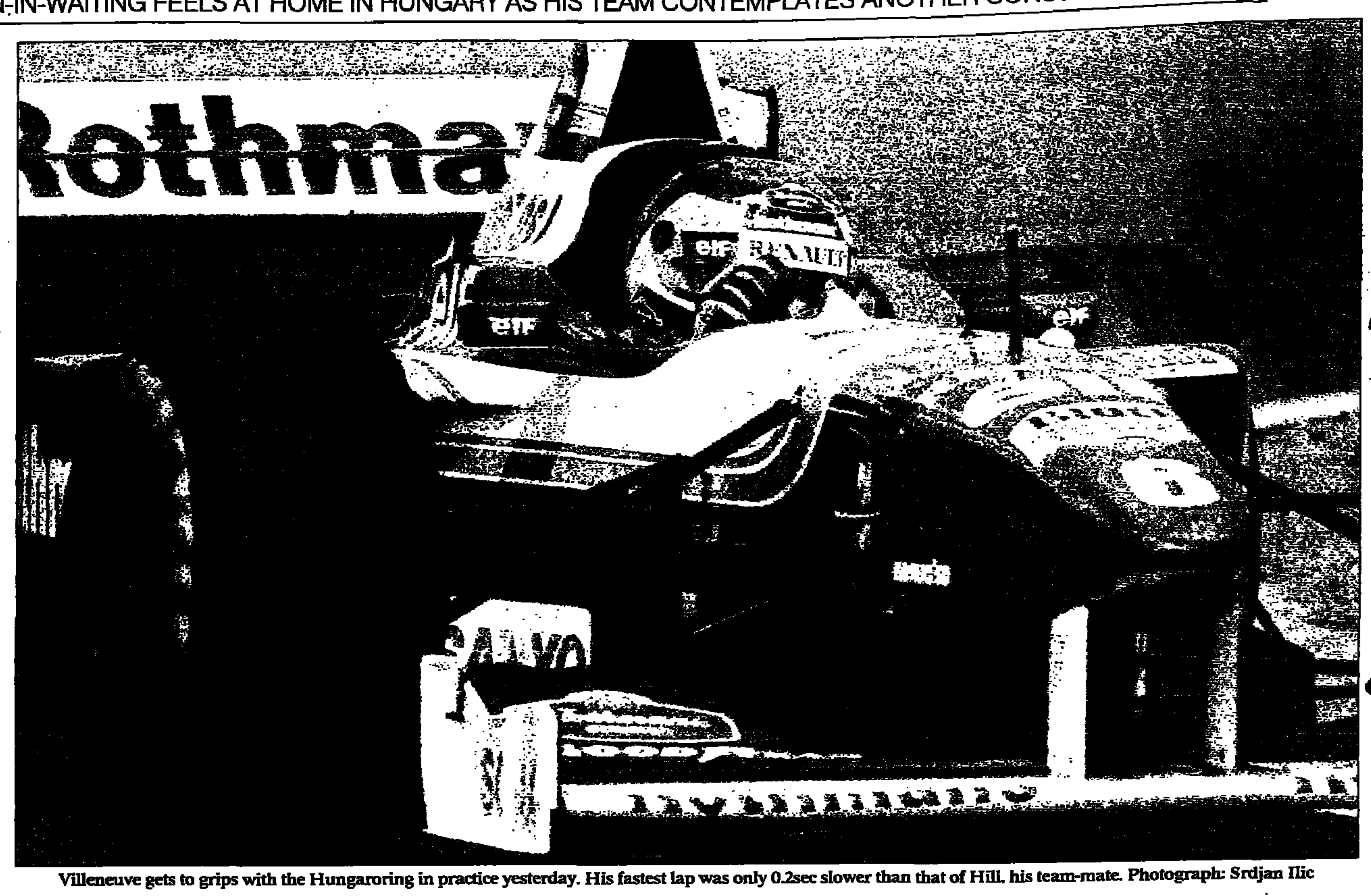
"Jacques has done a very good job to get so close on the first day," Hill said. "He is clearly raring to go and it will be a tough fight. I knew he was going to be competitive and that I would underestimate him at my peril."

Grid position on a circuit where overtaking opportunities are at a premium will be even more significant than usual and Villeneuve admitted that it was crucial for him, too, to get a place on the front row. "Overtaking will be very difficult," he said. "You can lose five seconds in two laps if you get stuck behind somebody. It is more like a go-kart track.

"I suppose time is running out to catch Damon now but it will not alter my attitude to racing or qualifying. I always try to give my best and I will work hard for the rest of the weekend. Damon is very quick and he will be difficult to beat, but he is beatable. I want to win here. That is the reason I am racing. I believe I can do the job."

OLIVER HOLT

At the Hungarian Grand Prix



Villeneuve gets to grips with the Hungaroring in practice yesterday. His fastest lap was only 0.2sec slower than that of Hill, his team-mate. Photograph: Srdjan Ilic

Bumping along the rocky road to greatness

Oliver Holt hears the men behind the Williams success story explain how winning has become their cup of tea

Frank Williams sat in his wheelchair, Patrick Head leaned on a rail at the side of the motor home and together they rolled back the years. Tomorrow, the Williams team is almost certain to clinch its eighth Formula One Constructors' Championship, equalling the record held by Ferrari, and two men at its centre began to reminisce.

Williams said his favourite moment was the team's first win, the July day at Silverstone in 1979 when Clay Regazzoni triumphed in the British Grand Prix. In that moment, he rammed a decade of jokes, barbs, and insults about the hopelessness of his efforts as a team owner back down the throats of those who had uttered them.

Head, the brilliant designer, who joined the team in 1977 when it was still scrabbling for a foothold in grand-prix racing, had a brighter memory, though, a race that summed up the combination of grittiness, innovation and technical excellence that has been Williams's trademark in all their years of domination. As Head talked about their driver, Alan Jones, and the golden era of Anglo-French rivalry, Williams sat back and smiled.

"It was the French Grand Prix at Le Castelet in 1980," Head said. "We knew that Ligier and Renault both had quicker cars than us and they were on home ground. We knew tyre-wear was going to be particularly hard so we chose a bigger tyre that was a bit slower than the rest.

"The Renaults fell by the wayside with engine problems and then we had to watch while the Ligiers gradually established a 12-second lead. Then, slowly, Jonesey began to chisel, chisel away at Jacques Laffite's lead and, when it got to within three seconds, it just blew Jacques' mind and Jonesey got him. To say the least, it was very pleasurable."

There were other highlights, too: the British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch in 1986 that Nelson Piquet won in a Williams Honda was right up there, along with all the times the team clinched the championship and brought the drivers' titles to Jones, Keke Rosberg, Piquet, Nigel Mansell and Alain Prost.

Tomorrow, when Damon Hill and Jacques Villeneuve contest the Hungarian Grand Prix for the team here, all those memories will become landmarks mapping out the route for Williams, the epitome of a backstreet team made good, eclipsing McLaren and equalling the feats of the mighty Ferrari.

It has not been an easy road. In the early Seventies, Williams was struggling so badly that his phone was cut off and he had to run the team from a call-box. Sometimes, he would return from races and have to borrow money to get his car out of the airport car park, staggering from debt to debt.

"At the beginning, it was just me and my creditors," Williams said. "In 1969, I started off with Piers Courage in a Formula Three race just as a one-off. Then there was another occasional one-off. The whole thing just evolved. One step came along after the other. I cannot say it was all a long-term, cohesive strategy. I just bumbled into things.

"I will be thrilled to bits if we win the constructors' championship here. That is always what has been most important to me. It is a team business and I am not here for the benefit of the drivers. I am here to enjoy myself and keep up my living. The drivers come and go but the team is here for ever.

"I don't really remember what it was like way back in the past, but there is absolutely no way I look back on it as the good old days. I don't think I ever gave up hope of making it, but my main concern was just getting to the next race. I enjoy it more now because there is more of it to enjoy; more cars, more people, more success."

Williams's success has even transcended the road accident in the south of France in 1986 that left him crippled and confined to a wheelchair. He has always treated his disability with disdain and, with the help of Head and his much coveted chief designer, Adrian Newey, has led the team from strength to strength and a position where they occupy a new state-of-the-art factory in Grove, Oxfordshire, and employ getting on for 250 people.

Yesterday, Williams watched practice from his vantage point behind the motor home. When he was asked about the approach of the record, he seemed to think McLaren or Lotus had more championships. Corrected, he made a parody of a celebration. "I had better have a drink of my tea, now," he said.

In a meretricious sport, the quiet, modest, understated Williams way has proved to be the best.

DETAILS FROM BUDAPEST

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, D Hill (GB, Williams) 1min 21.144sec; 2, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 1:21.166; 3, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 1:21 369; 4, E Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 1:22.332; 5, G Berger (Austria, Benetton) 1:22.617; 6, J Alesi (Fr, Benetton) 1:22.889; 7, O Panis (Fr, Ligier) 1.23 076; 8, J Herbert (GB, Sauber) 1:23 360; 9, R Barrichello (Br, Jordan) 1:23 400; 10, M Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren) 1:23 495; 11, M Brundle (GB, Jordan) 1:23.494; 12, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Sauber) 1:23.667; 13, J Verstappen (Holl, Footwork) 1:23 702; 14, D Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 1:23.722; 15, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell) 1:24.941; 16, U Katayama (Japan, Tyrrell) 1:25 056; 17, P Lamy (Por, Minardi) 1.25 722, 18, P Diniz (Br, Ligier) 1:25.764; 19, G Lavaggi (It, Minardi) 1:26.253; 20, R Rosset (Br, Footwork) 1:26.380.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS: Drivers: 1, Hill 73pts, 2, Villeneuve 52; 3, Alesi 31; 4, Schumacher 29; 5, Coulthard 18; 6 equal, Berger and Hakkinen 16; 8 equal, Panis and Barrichello 11; 10, Irvine 9; 11, Frentzen 6; 12, Salo 5; 13, Herbert 4; 14, Brundle 3; 15 equal, Verstappen and Diniz 1. Constructors: 1, Williams 125pts, 2, Benetton 47; 3, Ferrari 38; 4, McLaren 34; 5, Jordan 14; 6, Ligier 12; 7, Sauber 10; 8, Tyrrell 5; 9, Footwork 1.

REMAINING GRANDS PRIX: Tomorrow: Hungarian, Budapest. Aug 25: Belgian, Spa-Francorchamps. Sept 8: Italian, Monza. Sept 22: Portuguese, Estoril. Oct 13: Japanese, Suzuka.

RECORD

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIPS

WILLIAMS'S RECORD: 1973: 10th. 1974: 10th. 1975: 9th. 1978: 9th 1979: 2nd 1980: 1st. 1981: 1st. 1982: 4th. 1983: 4th. 1984: 6th 1985: 3rd 1986: 1st. 1987: 1st. 1988: 7th 1989: 2nd. 1990: 4th. 1991: 2nd. 1992: 1st. 1993: 1st 1994: 1st 1995: 2nd.

WILLIAMS'S WORLD CHAMPIONS: 1980: Alan Jones 1982: Keke Rosberg 1987: Nelson Piquet. 1992: Nigel Mansell. 1993: Alain Prost.

TITLES: Ferrari 8; Lotus 7, McLaren 7; Williams 7; Cooper 2; Brabham 2; Vanwall 1; BRM 1; Matra 1; Tyrrell 1; Benetton 1.

ATHLETICS: BAF RETHINKS FUTURE ROLE AS BRITAIN'S OLYMPIANS ATTRACT ONLY SPARSE CROWD

Black will lighten attendance gloom

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

GREAT Britain's medal-winners from the Olympic Games will return to a half-empty stadium in the first British meeting since Atlanta tomorrow. The Performance Games, at Crystal Palace, will underline the need for the British Athletic Federation (BAF) to look at its own performance.

Only 2,000 tickets had been sold by yesterday morning for the 17,000-capacity venue. Complimentary passes and ticket purchases on the day are likely to push the attendance towards 8,000 but, with the London grand prix last month having attracted an audience barely into five figures, the BAF is beginning to recognise the seriousness of waning interest in the sport in Britain.

Without an Olympic champion to use as a marketing tool, and facing 1997 without a television contract, the BAF is preparing to reduce the number of meetings it promotes. "It is well past the date when we should have been doing that," Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, admitted yesterday. "The federation is looking hard at the number of meetings it stages. We need to put our resources into fewer meetings so we can put on a good show, beginning in 1997.

"We are up against meetings like Monte Carlo [today] and Zurich [next Wednesday] but we have to put our resources into six meetings. If we had done a bit better in Atlanta I think the public would have rushed to welcome people back."

The perception among the non-cognoscenti is of British failure in Atlanta, though realistically four silver medals and two bronze was a decent return given the resources. Every one of Britain's medal winners will appear tomorrow and the greatest reception will be for Roger Black.

Black won the race within a race at Atlanta, taking the silver medal behind Michael Johnson in the 400 metres. He was the only Briton to win two medals, anchoring the 4 x 400 metres team to second place behind the United States. Tomorrow, Black runs the 300 metres against all five fellow British relay medal-winners (those who appeared in the rounds, but not the final, were also awarded medals). That gives a line-up of Iwan Thomas, Jamie Baulch, Mark Richardson, Du'aine Ladejo and Mark Hylton.

Steve Backley, whose javelin silver medal was remarkable for it being won only two months after he came off crutches following an Achilles tendon operation, is up against a mainly domestic field. Jonathan Edwards, the triple jump silver medal-winner, faces Brian Wellman, from Bermuda, who was ahead of the Briton in Sestriere on Wednesday until the last round.

Steve Smith, the high jump bronze medal-winner, competes against Tim Forsyth, the Commonwealth champion, and Denise Lewis, the heptathlon bronze medal-winner, lines up in the javelin against Tessa Sanderson and in the 100 metres hurdles against Angela Thorp, who broke Sally Gunnell's British record in Atlanta.

Probably the best quality field is in the women's 150 metres. Not only does it feature Chioma Ajunwa, who won Nigeria's first Olympic gold medal three weeks after making her debut for Shaftesbury-Barnet, but also Juliet Cuthbert, the 1992 Olympic 100 and 200 metres runner-up.

They will be joined by Chandra Sturrup, fourth in the 100 metres in Atlanta, and Dannette Young-Stone, an Olympic relay gold medal-winner. Ajunwa won the long jump in Atlanta, having been reinstated in June after serving a four-year suspension for drug abuse.

Black: won two medals

TRIATHLON

Britons face supreme test

BY DAVID POWELL

THE strongest field yet assembled for a triathlon in Britain will contest the International Triathlon Grand Prix (ITGP) event at Longleat tomorrow. In addition to Simon Lessing and Spencer Smith, Britain's present and former world champions, Brad Bevan, four-times the World Cup champion, Mike Pigg, the United States champion on four occasions, and Greg Welch, the 1994 Hawaii Ironman champion, are scheduled to appear.

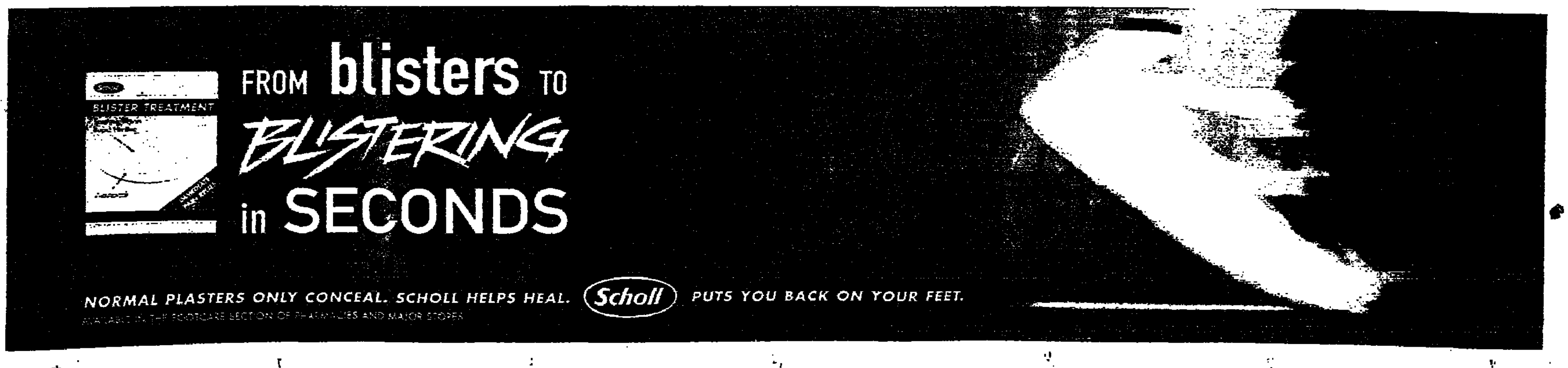
The race is the second in the £1 million grand-prix series, inaugurated this year with $100,000 (about £65,000) in prize-money for each event. Smith, the 1993 and 1994 world champion, won the first race in Koblenz, with Lessing, the 1995 world champion, second. Bevan, an Australian nicknamed "Crocodile", because he swims in crocodile infested waters when training in Queensland, is the closest challenger to the two Britons.

Lessing is the world standard distance and long course champion, winning the former in Cancun, Mexico, last November, when Bevan was runner-up. However, the grand prix format is in marked contrast to championship racing, which comprises one continuous endurance test of swimming, cycling and running.

Standard distance incorporates a 1,500 metres swim, 40 kilometres cycle ride and 10 kilometres run. Long distance comprises a 4,000 metres swim, 120 kilometres ride and 30 kilometres run. The grand prix is more explosive and, on a multi-looped course, more attractive to spectators than the world championships that, hitherto, have tended to leave the public isolated from the action for long periods.

Various formats are being employed in the nine-race series that, having begun in Europe, moves on from Britain to the United States, Philippines, Thailand and United Arab Emirates, concluding in Australia on November 24. The Enduro format, in which the competitors complete two sprint triathlons back to back, will be used at Longleat.

The athletes, having swum 500 metres, cycled 14 kilometres and run three kilometres, dive straight back into the lake and do it all again. The swim is held over two laps of 250 metres, the ride over six laps of 2.35 kilometres and the run over six laps of 500 metres.



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RUGBY LEAGUE: VICTORY OVER KEIGHLEY WILL ENSURE ELEVATION TO SUPER LEAGUE FOR GREGORY

Salford point the way to promotion

By Christopher Irvine

SALFORD Reds will achieve the one automatic promotion place to the Stones Super League and receive the first division trophy at the Willows tomorrow, provided they earn a point from the visit by second-placed Keighley Cougars.

Andy Gregory could think of no better present on his 35th birthday. The Salford coach has won almost every honour in the game and his side made history earlier in the season by ending the eight-year winning run of Wigan, Gregory's former club, in the Challenge Cup.

"Taking Salford into the Super League will give me just as big a buzz," Gregory said. "We were extremely disappointed at not being awarded a place when we won the centenary championship last season and that made us doubly determined.

"Keighley were the last side to beat us at home last September. It's no secret there's not much love lost between the sides. Keighley made derogatory remarks in their match programme about us the last time we were there, but we won 45-8, and I'm looking for a similar performance on Sunday." Salford's runaway victory at Keighley ended the notion that they could be caught as early as June. Gregory has established a fine squad of experienced talents and exciting younger players, including Nathan McAvoy and Steve Blakeley, the respective leading first division try and points-scorers, who should figure in the Great Britain squad for the autumn tour of Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand, which is announced on Tuesday.

For the clubs that have trailed in Salford's wake, but have Super League aspirations, the battle is for second place, on the assumption that the Rugby Football League (RFL) will free a second promotion slot. That is by no means certain, yet Hull will submit an application should they finish in the top four and Keighley made out their case to the League this week.

Huddersfield described their own "fast-track" application as reorganisation of the league structure. Whatever, they want a place among the elite handed to them. Featherstone Rovers accept they cannot make it to the Super League on their own. This week, Trevor Morris, a club director, proposed a marriage with their neighbours, Wakefield Trinity, who quickly spurned his offer.

With South Wales "fast-tracked" in for next season, the Super League in 1997 consists, so far, of 13 teams. Fourteen is a possibility, but Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, ruled out any further decisions until after the inaugural summer season.

"We told clubs at the Rugby League Council meeting last month to leave it alone until September, when we can get everybody together, have a debrief, look back, and you can tell us what you did and didn't like," he said.

It seems certain that Salford will take the place at the top table of Workington, whose plight at the bottom was matched yesterday by a £250,000 share offer to raise much-needed funds. The lone Cumbrian presence in the Super League will disappear, unless the team can overcome Bradford Bulls at home tomorrow and then win at Wigan and Leeds.

At the bottom of the first division, Batley and Rochdale will have their relegation fates sealed, should they be beaten by Hull and Widnes, their respective opponents tomorrow. Hull Kingston Rovers need only to beat Carlisle at home to win the second division title.

St Helens aim to play title role in Paris

WHEN Steve Prescott hauled down Jason Flowers to deny the Castleford full back a last-minute winning try a week ago, Shaun McRae, the St Helens coach, said the entire season flashed before him in that one tackle *(Christopher Irvine writes)*.

St Helens know that destiny and the Stones Super League title — their first championship for 21 years — is in their hands, but the run-in is proving problematic. They just held on at London Broncos and Castleford and, tonight, Paris Saint-Germain provide the last away opposition.

"We set ourselves the target of winning our last four away games and we're three-quarters there," McRae said, "but we're under pressure from Wigan; that makes Paris a tough test.

"Sheffield will be real nuisance-value next week and Warrington may come to Knowsley Road for the last match needing to win to seal a top-four place. There is a lot of football to be played before the title is settled."

Paris are not to be underestimated at home: Sheffield, Workington and London have fallen at Charlety Stadium, Oldham were held to a draw and Wigan were run close. The French are also a far more effective side than the one thrashed 52-10 at St Helens in June.

Alan Hunte is restored at centre and Andy Leathem is in the St Helens squad after an injury that has ended Vila Matautia's season. Paris have a lengthy injury list, but Danny Smith returns to the pack where Didier Cabestany will join him.

In the game of leap-frog for the last play-off place, Warrington can reclaim fourth position by beating Castleford tonight, but for less than 24 hours, if London win at Oldham tomorrow.

SAILING

Victorious Lennon in a class of his own

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

MIKE LENNON confirmed his domination of Glenfiddich Melges 24 racing in Great Britain yesterday with his fourth victory of Skandia Life Cowes Week, to take the series title with a race to spare. Lennon also had a third and a second place in a demonstration of consistent good form that no one else could match.

Lennon, a sailmaker from Southend, who won the Rover series at Tarbert earlier this year, could not have hoped for a better preparation for the British national championships at Brixham early next month, when he will be defending the title. He has shown that he is quicker than most upwind, but is especially fast downwind, where his background in Tornado catamaran sailing seems to have given him an edge.

His victory at Cowes is all the better for being achieved against some good opposition, including Georgio Zuccoli, the European champion, and Paul Brotherton, the former Olympic 470 sailor.

"It has been a good week," Lennon said. "We didn't expect to do this well, especially with the likes of Zuccoli and Brotherton in the fleet. So we are pleased, to say the least, to put in that level of performance."

Zuccoli, who was disqualified for being over the start line early yesterday but is still in third place overall behind David Bedford, on *Glenfiddich I*, has found the Solent a tricky place to race on his first visit. He has great respect for Lennon and is looking forward to taking him on at the European championships at Barcelona in October.

"I am not really sure I can beat him," the two-time Olympic Tornado campaigner from Milan said, "but I think he feels the same about me. It will be a big fleet at Barcelona but we and Lennon and maybe four or five others will be the fastest."

Bedford was another premature starter yesterday, something he was dismayed to discover at the finish. His race, meanwhile, had turned into something of a match with Ian Pinnell, on *Pink Lips*, whose crew included Andy Beadsworth, the Great Britain Olympic Soling skipper who could not resist the chance to have a go at Bedford.

"I was just having some fun," Beadsworth, who just missed a bronze medal in Savannah, said. "I was only a crew member. I just helmed for the bit against Bedford."

Bedford, who probably enjoyed the chance to take on Beadsworth, described him as "a frustrated Olympic sailor in a built-up area".

Another of the Olympic team putting in an appearance at Cowes was Glyn Charles, the Star skipper, who was racing in the 83-strong X-boat fleet. Sailing with Lisa Childerly, Annie Goodman and Caroline Archer on board No 23, *Starlight*, Charles was acting as main sheet-trimmer and "back-seat driver".

Starlight looked good up the first beat, when she was fifteenth with about a minute to go to the mark. But she then got horribly buried and eventually rounded in about sixtieth after a few collisions.

"We weren't quite on the pace," Charles said. "I thought it was quite an on-the-case fleet, but there were lots of people spouting irrelevant rules and you had to keep your laughing gear on — that's for sure."

Charles and Childerly eventually retired after their starboard lower shroud parted and they limped back under jury rig. The race was won by No 56, *Xanthus*, with William Norris's *Beatrix* second, and Richard and Liz Field on *Persephone* third.

There were dramas in Class 1, where the two Bashford-Howison 41s — *Wolf*, owned by Glyn Williams, and *Silk 2*, owned by Jocelyn Waller, are now clear of the rest of the fleet in first and second places respectively, and are set to fight it out for overall victory today.

Wolf, with Matt Humphries at the wheel, took the honours yesterday. The decisive moment came on the run during the third downwind leg, when the leaders were sailing across the Stansore ledge in very shallow water.

Julian Salter, on *Wolf*, noticed *Reckless*, another Class 1 yacht, bouncing on her keel ahead of them and alerted Humphries on the wheel, who threw the boat into a broach to get her across. Behind her, Heeley, on *Silk 2*, was not so quick, and got stuck on the bottom for 30 seconds.

GILL ALLEN

Members of the 83-strong X-boat fleet round the mark during racing in the Solent yesterday

COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

THE TIMES Mees Pierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE

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The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

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8 JUL	RIETER - SCRAGG LTD P WILLIAMS 30 P HOLT 32 J ETCHELLS 32 * D MASSEY 35	HEYROSE	129
9 JUL	MCNICHOLAS CONSTRUCTION S CARTER 38 * D ROBERTS 41 * R ARMSTRONG 41 * R THOMPSON 39	HENDON	158
9 JUL	MEGGITT PLC E LEWIS 37 * E ROBERTSON 39 * J MATHER 37 * P COCKER 34	FERNDOWN	147
9 JUL	PFIZER N PILCHER 38 M WYTHES 34 G GILLATT 34 K BROWN 34	ASHFORD	148
9 JUL	REUTERS N HOULDEN 33 * P LAFALLEY 35 * S LEE 34 * S KAIL 33	LA MOYE	135
9 JUL	HONEYWELL CONTROL SYSTEMS LTD T CHRISTY 29 * G HEWSON 37 * I MCLACHLAN 35 * R PAUL 34	THE OXFORDSHIRE	135
9 JUL	MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS LTD A WEDDELL 32 * F BROWN 34 * R HUTTON 34 * L WEST 32	FOREST OF ARDEN	132
10 JUL	AVON & WILTSHIRE HEALTH SERVICE J GRAY 45 K HOBLEY 41 S WADDINGTON 40 J NICHOLLS 38	THORNBURY	164
10 JUL	JAGUAR CENTRE (HULL) LTD D BORRILL 40 C ATKIN 40 M BETTS 40 B CALAM 39	HORNSEA	159
10 JUL	SIEMENS NIXDORF INFORMATION SYSTEMS LTD M NOHAVICKA 32 M BRETTON 32 * C HARPER 35 * S PATEL 33	BURHILL	132
10 JUL	BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION R ANTHANN 37 G ROBINSON 36 A DARBAR 36 J PARRIS 35	SUNNINGDALE	144
11 JUL	DUDLEY STATIONERY LIMITED E MANGAN 34 * M LOCK 42 * B O'CALLAGHAN 41 * R BRODERICK 40	FRINTON ON SEA	157
11 JUL	S.C.C. LIMITED M J O'DONNELL 39 R MCDAID 39 M O'DONNELL 38 * R CUNNINGHAM 37	ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE	153
11 JUL	DRAKE TOOLING & ABRASIVES LTD C JONES 37 A BEAZLEY 37 J RIPLEY 39 C SHANNON 40	STOVER	153
11 JUL	JBA (UK) LTD N GRIFFITHS 36 J HEALD 36 * R STEADMAN 39 * J COLLINS 39	PORTAL	150
11 JUL	HUGH JAMES SOLICITORS M PERRY 33 * M CHUBB 40 * V JONES 40 * I WIBLEY 35	WHITCHURCH (CARDIFF)	148
11 JUL	STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY A HIRST 30 * M COLLETT 43 * I STRONG 37 * C HAWLEY 37	SAND MOOR	147
11 JUL	BIRMINGHAM MANUFACTURING JEWELLERS LTD J PAYTON-SMITH 36 * R POWERS 38 * N WOODS 38 * I CANDELET 35	LINDRICK	147
11 JUL	IBH NORTH DOWN HOSPITAL H MAURICE 36 B HOARE 37 G SMITH 36 A WELLS 32	REIGATE HEATH	141
12 JUL	RIDGE & PARTNERS D MARR 32 * A CUDDY 44 * D LEATHERS 41 * G THOMAS 39	FRILFORD HEATH	156
12 JUL	BOYD & LLOYD OFFICE SUPPLIES D RADFORD 36 * P CARTER 41 * K PARKER 40 * B FERRY 39	TRACY PARK	156
12 JUL	THE STATUS GROUP PLC J GREEN 37 * I TERRY 38 * S JAMES 39 * G EDWARDS 37	BADGEMORE PARK	152
12 JUL	THE LLOYD GROUP D BAKEMAN 37 J HOPE 38 D WARDEN 36 A STRACEY 36	HADLEY WOOD	148
12 JUL	T.G. ARMSTRONG & PARTNERS C DEVINE 34 * M WEBSTER 39 * P HUNTER 37 * A WAPPAT 37	RAMSIDE	147
12 JUL	SCIENTIFIC AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS LTD D HOLROYD 34 * D SIMPSON 41 * A HART 35 * J CROSS 34	PARK WOOD	144
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16 JUL	RICHARD ELLIS A LEECH 37 * P BALL 41 * P HOWLAND 39 * J PETIT 39	WOKING	156
17 JUL	NEEDHAM ENTERPRISES LTD D NEEDHAM 38 D CHESHIRE 37 * M PRICE 40 * P NICKLIN 40	KIDDERMINSTER	155
18 JUL	ARTHUR ANDERSON I SHARMAN 38 D SUTHERLAND 33 * R WYATT 40 * A CURRIE 39	RINGWAY	150
18 JUL	SMC PNEUMATICS UK LTD S BANGS 33 * D CAIRNS 36 * A MCPHERSON 33 * D KIRKWOOD 33	WESTERWOOD	135

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BOWLS

LEAMINGTON SPA: Women's world outdoor championships: Pairs: Thirteenth round: Group one: Ireland bt Japan 34-12; Zambia bt Holland 35-7; Cook Islands bt Hong Kong 25-17, Wales bt Spain 28-14; Israel bt Argentina 18-17; Namibia bt Papua New Guinea 27-26; Norfolk Islands bt South Africa 24-21; Zimbabwe bt Swaziland 21-19. Group two: Scotland bt Malaysia 31-19, New Zealand bt Western Samoa 34-6, England bt Singapore 19-12, United States bt India 40-10; Guernsey bt Fiji 30-14; Australia bt Kenya 30-9, Canada bt Botswana 23-15. Fourteenth round: Section one: Papua New Guinea bt Argentina 31-11, Ireland bt Zimbabwe 26-12; Zambia bt Japan 34-12; South Africa bt Swaziland 30-16, Cook Islands bt Wales 23-12; Israel bt Spain 24-13, Hong Kong bt Holland 19-15, Namibia bt Norfolk Island 19-14. Section two: Fiji bt Australia 25-14; Jersey bt Singapore 32-9. Canada drew with Kenya 16-16, England bt Botswana 25-18, United States bt Malaysia 26-25; Guernsey bt India 37-14, Scotland bt Western Samoa 37-7. Triples: Thirteenth round. Group one. South Africa bt Cook Islands 17-15; Malaysia bt England 20-15, Guernsey bt Canada 27-11, Singapore bt Namibia 25-13. Swaziland bt Spain 24-6. Zambia bt Kenya 27-12, United States bt Fiji 26-6. Group two: Ireland bt Holland 17-14, Wales bt Western Samoa 35-8, Botswana bt Jersey 19-13, Australia bt Norfolk Island 17-13; India bt Japan 20-15, Israel bt Papua New Guinea 14-12. Hong Kong bt Argentina 26-11. Fourteenth round. Section one. Swaziland bt Kenya 25-14; Scotland drew with Canada 18-18. Zambia bt United States 19-16. Guernsey bt Fiji 18-16; Namibia bt Cook Islands 19-18, Spain drew with Singapore 21-21. South Africa bt Malaysia 33-5. Section two: Israel bt India 28-9. New Zealand bt Botswana 21-14. Hong Kong bt Papua New Guinea 19-12. Jersey bt Argentina 26-12. Australia bt Holland 17-9; Norfolk Island bt Japan 26-4. Western Samoa bt Ireland 16-15

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CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (second day of three): Chester-le-Street: Durham 401-9 dec (P D Collingwood 148, A Pratt 69 not out, J E Morris 64) and 25-0, Somerset 370-7 dec (A N Hayhurst 160 not out, S Trego 78)

CYCLING

TOUR OF PORTUGAL: Fourth stage (175 1km, Paredes to Vila Nova de Gaia): 1, M Lelli (It) 3hr 53min 12sec; 2, A Edo (Sp); 3, M S Sarkauskas (Lit); 4, 4 Paivan (It); 5, M Abreu (Por); 6, R Forconi (It) all same time. Leading overall positions: 1, Lelli 16hr 28min 23sec; 2, M Abreu (Por) at 13sec; 3, V Gumulo (Por) 14; 4, J Gomes (Por) 18; 5, P Ferreira (Por) 55; 6, J Azevedo 57

EQUESTRIANISM

BALLSBRIDGE: Royal Dublin horse show: Kerrygold Classic: 1, Dollar Girl (N Skelton, GB) clear, 47.67; 2, Gyssmo (J Fredli, Switz) 0, 47.90; 3, Grannusch (J Whitaker, GB) 0, 48.16; 6, Abbervail Dream (D Lampard, GB) 4, 52.62; 8, Tees Hanauer (R Smith, GB) 4, 0, 52.62. Kerrygold Hit and Hurry: 1, Diamond Explosion (F Connors, Ire) 24pts 64.85sec; 2, Vergonne II (R Breul, Fr) 24, 65.43; 3, Quick Star (N Skelton, GB) 23, 64.57sec. Kerrygold Nations Cup: 1, Great Britain 0 faults (Dollar Girl (N Skelton), Tees Hanauer (R Smith), Abbervail Dream (D Lampard), Grannusch (J Whitaker)); 2, Ireland 0.5 faults (La Ina (P Charles), Cruising (T Coyle), Kilbaha (J Ledingham), Schalhnaur (E Macken)); 3, Italy 22.75 faults; 4, France 26.25

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Qualifying round, first leg: Llansantffraid 1 Ruch Chorzow (Pol) 1, Shelbourne 1 Brann (Nor) 3, Glentoran 1 Sparta Prague 2, Red Star Belgrade 0 Hearts 0, Dinamo Batumi (Geo) 6 Havnar Boltfelag (Faeroe Is) 0, Kotaik Abovian (Arm) 1 AEK Larnaca (Cyp) 0, MPCC Mozyr (Belo) 2 FC Reykjavik (Ice) 2; Chemlon Humenne (Slovakia) 1 Flamurtari (Alb) 0, Karabakh Agdam (Azer) 0 MyPa-47 (Fin) 1, Tallinna Sadam (Est) 2 Niva Vinnitsa (Ukr) 1, Universitate (Lat) 1 Vaduz (Liech) 1, Kispest Honved (Hun) 1 Sloga Jugomagnat (Mac) 0; FC Constructorul (Mold) 1 Hapoel Ironi Rishon (Isr) 0, MPCC Mozyr (Belo) 2 Reykjavik (Ice) 2, Chemlon Humenne (Slovakia) 1 Flamurtari Vlora (Alb) 0, Sion (Switz) 4 Kareda Siauliai (Lith) 2
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP: First round: Dundee 3 Stenhousemuir 0, Hamilton 2 St Mirren 1
PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Bromley 1 Charlton 1, Cardiff 1 Tottenham 5, Cheltenham 0 Stoke 3, Exeter 1 Manchester City 3, Gala Fairydean 0 Carlisle 9; Oxford Utd 2 Southampton 1, Scunthorpe 2 Lincoln United 1, Bishop's Stortford 3 VS Rugby 2, Sampdoria 1 Chelsea 2

GOLF

LITSCHAU, Austria: Austrian Open: Second-round qualifiers (GB and Ire unless stated): 131: J Pinero (Sp) 65, 66. 133: M Scarpa (It) 65, 68, D Higgins 66, 67. 134: S Dodd 67, 67, J Lomas 68, 66; G Clark 66, 68, D Lynn 66, 68, S Watson 64, 70. 135: P Haugsrud (Nor) 67, 68, S Webster 66, 69; T Gogele (Ger) 68, 67; B Lane 69, 66. 136: P Nyman (Swe) 70, 66, L James 70, 66, A Barnett 69, 67, R Muntz (Holl) 67, 69; P Golding 67, 69, F Larsson (Swe) 70, 66; M Lanner (Swe) 67, 69. 137: J Rystrom (Swe) 71, 66; A Sherborne 67, 70, S Grappasonni (It) 67, 70; F Cea (Sp) 70, 67; M Litton 69, 68, N Henning (SA) 70, 67, M McGuire 70, 67. 138: D R Jones 68, 70; A Bossert (Switz) 67, 71; B Marchbank 67, 71, M Pilz (Fin) 71, 67, B May (US) 70, 68, D Chopra (Swe) 69, 69. 139: M Wills 69, 70, E Canonica (It) 71, 68, H Thul (Ger) 66, 73, R Winchester 73, 66, G Hjertstedt (Swe) 69, 70; M Anglert (Swe) 71, 68, G Chalmers (Aus) 69, 70, A Kankkonen (Fin) 68, 71. R Burns 68, 71; P McGinley 73, 66; B Pappas (SA) 67, 72, S Brown 71, 68; M Stevenson 75, 64. 140: J Mellor 72, 68, T Planchin (Fr) 68, 72; B Davis 71, 69, A Lebouc (Fr) 70, 70; B Longmuir 71, 69, G Owen 67, 73; R Sailer (Austria) 70, 70, A Collison 73, 67, G J Brand 68, 72; S Pullan 68, 72. 141: F Grosser-Grange (Fr) 72, 69, C Grenier (Austria) 73, 68, O Rojahn (Nor) 69, 72; M Welch 71, 70, R Rafferty 72, 69, R Wessels (SA) 69, 72; O Nordberg (Swe) 72, 69; M Debove (Fr) 70, 71; A Haglund (Swe) 70, 71; R Coles 70, 71; A Hunter 67, 74, O Edmond (Fr) 71, 70
LITTLESTONE: Boys' home internationals: England 14 Ireland 1, Scotland 13 Wales 2
FORMBY: British Girls' Open Amateur Championship: Final: M Monnet (Fr) bt C Laurens (Fr) 4 and 3

ROWING

STRATHCLYDE PARK, Glasgow: World championships: Seniors. Men: Coxed fours: Semi-final one: 1, Czech Republic 6min 47sec; 2, Russia 6.48; 3, Yugoslavia 6.52. Semi-final two: 1, Romania 6.52; 2, France 6.55; 3, Great Britain 6.58. Lightweight pairs: Semi-final one: 1, Australia 7.28; 2, Denmark 7.29; 3, Germany 7.30. Semi-final two: 1, Ireland 7.29; 2, Italy 7.31; 3, France 7.32; 4, Great Britain 7.35 — to B final. Lightweight quads: Semi-final one: 1, Italy 6.32; 2, Ireland 6.34; 3, Great Britain 6.37. Semi-final two: 1, Czech Republic 6.39; 2, France 6.39.5; 3, Germany 6.39.9. Lightweight sculls: Semi-final one: 1, United States 7.54; 2, Finland 7.55; 3, Russia 7.55.2; 5, Great Britain 8.05 — to B final. Semi-final two: 1, Denmark 7.47; 2, Czech Republic 7.48; 3, Slovenia 7.51. Women: Lightweight sculls: Semi-final one: 1, United States 8.48; 2, France 8.56; 3, Romania 9.00. Semi-final two: 1, Holland 8.42; 2, Denmark 8.43; 3, Great Britain (Appelboom) 8.44. Juniors: Men: Coxless fours: Semi-final one: 1, Slovenia 6.55; 2, Italy 6.56.43; 3, Great Britain 6.56.45. Semi-final two: 1, Australia 6.56; 2, Germany 6.58; 3, France 7.00. Coxed fours: Semi-final one: 1, Romania 6.56; 2, Poland 7.01; 3, Germany 7.03. Semi-final two: 1, France 6.59; 2, Russia 7.01; 3, Italy 7.02 (Great Britain already in C final). Sculls: Semi-final one: 1, Belorussia 7.52; 2, Ukraine 7.54; 3, Russia 7.58. Semi-final two: 1, Greece 8.01; 2, Belgium 8.03; 3, Australia 8.04 (no Great Britain entry). Double sculls: Semi-final one: 1, Switzerland 7.14; 2, Australia 7.16. Semi-final two: 1, Slovenia 7.14; 2, Sweden 7.15. Semi-final three: 1, Spain 7.09; 2, Yugoslavia 7.11; 4, Great Britain 7.14 — to B final. Quad sculls: Semi-final one: 1, Slovenia 6.39; 2, Italy 6.40; 3, Holland 6.40.4; 4, Great Britain 6.42 — to B final. Semi-final two: 1, France 6.31; 2, Denmark 6.33; 3, Norway 6.33.8. Coxless pairs: Semi-final one: 1, Germany 7.28; 2, Slovenia 7.28.3; 3, France 7.34. Semi-final two: 1, Canada 7.35; 2, Australia 7.38; 3, Croatia 7.38.4 (Great Britain already in C final). Women: Sculls: Semi-final one: 1, Germany 9.02; 2, Sweden 9.03; 3, Italy 9.12. Semi-final two: 1, Slovenia 8.54; 2, Latvia 9.01; 3, Russia 9.04 (no Great Britain entry). Double sculls: Semi-final one: 1, Poland 8.08; 2, Italy 8.09; 3, France 8.13. Semi-final two: 1, Austria 8.02.2; 2, Germany 8.02.6; 3, China 8.02.9; 6, Great Britain 8.36 — to B final

SAILING

COWES: Skandia Life Cowes Week: CHS Class 1 (Rocking Chair Trophy): 1, Wolf (G Williams); 2, Silk 2 (J Waller); 3, Hawk (N Bramwell). CHS Class 2: 1, Jump The Gun (S Hawthorn); 2, Points North (D Walker); 3, Lion (T Tinning). CHS Class 3: 1, Billy Mac Whizz (R Cameron Davies); 2, Sunbeam V (W Courtenay); 3, Thrust (M Strutt). CHS Class 4: 1, Owl (P Bruce); 2, Raw Hyde II (I Gray); 3, Passegeule (I Butzo). CHS Class 5: 1, Leader (D Brown); 2, Addict (I Handley); 3, Leila (N Harley). CHS Class 6: 1, Shallot (M Moody); 2, Kandoo (C McKeon); 3, Non Plus (A Wilkins). Maxi: 1, Grand Mistral (Russian team); 2, Multi Pep (J Caulcett); 3, Longobarda (M Slade). ISC Handicap: 1, Debonair (D Guy); 2, Jazz (P Ogden); 3, Trilogy of Brighton (A Uren). Melges 24: 1, Ancasta (C Little); 2, Raw Hyde (M Lennon); 3, Wolf Cub (E Leask). Etchells: 1, Candide (P Andreae); 2, Extravaganza (R Eglin); 3, Katchem (C Griffiths). X99: 1, Exolist (H van Dalen); 2, Expression (R Engelbrecht); 3, Exile (P Morton). Sigma 38: 1, Red Coat III (Army Sailing Association); 2, Pavlova III (G Walker); 3, Yeoman XXVIII (D Aisher). Sigma 33: 1, Honey of Bosham (J Platt); 2, Offbeat (D McLeman); 3, Firestorm (J Perry). Daring: 1, Dauntless (G Peckham); 2, Audax (P Romer-Lee); 3, Deinos (J Ewart). Dragon: 1, Sobriety (C Carus); 2, Forrader (E Williams); 3, Scarecrow (A Goodman). Sonata: 1, Sonic (M Jaffe); 2, Dry Red (D Lippold); 3, Piccolo (M Harrington). J24: 1, Jo Jo (S Chiverton); 2, Challenger (Army Sailing Association) (only two finished). Redwing: 1, Flamingo (J Cleave); 2, Quail (J Peel); 3, Avocet (M Richardson). Sunfast 36: 1, Sunsail Alpha (C Paton); 2, Sunsail Papa (P Fuller); 3, Sunsail Oscar (D Müller). Sunbeam: 1, Polly (J Money); 2, Danny (R Wickens); 3, Harmony (J Maxwell). Swallow: 1, Goosander (M Upton); 2, Skua (I Butler); 3, Migrant (C Fisher). Mermaid: 1, Hallul (R Camill); 2, Rosemary (A Dobbs); 3, Sirena (R Ohlenschlager). Squib: 1, Thrifty (P Dixon); 2, Artful Dodger (N Emery); 3, Notorious (G Richards). Flying 15: 1, Mr Toad (P Rudling); 2, Cruella (J Hill); 3, Didgeridoo (J Hayden). XOD: 1, Xanthus (R Westmacott); 2, Beatrix (W Norris); 3, Persephone (R Field). Victory: 1, Dunlin (D Penn); 2, Steadfast (B Middleditch); 3, Minx (D Freeman). Contessa 32: 1, Red Apple (M Jaffe); 2, Blanco (T Vanner); 3, Trader Jo (J Gresham). SCOD: 1, Tuonela (R Harding); 2, Anjalo (R Johnson) (only two finished). Hunter 707: 1, Bogo Fogo (D Knight); 2, Highlight (P Johnson); 3, Sparkle (P Curtis)

REAL TENNIS

HOBART, Tasmania: Australian Open Championship: Semi-finals: R Fahey (Aus) bt F Filippelli (Aus) 6-4, 6-4, 6-2, 6-1; J Snow (GB) bt M Gooding (GB) 6-2, 6-3, 4-6, 6-1

SHOOTING

VANCOUVER: British Columbia Championships: Victory Trophy (300yds): 1, L Whitnock (Can) 50.10pts; 2, D Gass (GB) 50.9; 3, M Duma (US) 50.9. Other British: 4, N Ball 50.9; 5, P Bennison 50.9; 7, J Underwood 50.8. McDonald Stewart Aggregate (300 and 600yds): 1, C Weeden (GB) 100.17pts; 2, Underwood 100.7 (count-out); 3, D Ruser (US) 100.16. Other British: 4, Gass 100.16. A Tucker, Ball and N Moxon all 99.16. Vancouver Trophy (600yds): 1, Ball 50.10pts; 2, Moxon 50.9; 3, H Aldrich (Can) 50.8. Other British: Gass, T Newbold and Weeden 50.7. Lieutenant Governor's Prize (first stage): 1, R Lomax (OCRA) 105.18pts; 2, Ball 105.18 (count out); 3, C Dahlstrom (Can) 105.17. British: P Patel 105.15; J Sweet 104.17, J Ouston 104.12. Grand Aggregate Leaders (first day): 1, Ball 304.53pts; 2, Weeden 304.46; 3, Gass 303.46; 5, Moxon 303.42. International match (600, 800 and 900yds): 1, Great Britain 1,780pts; 2, Canada 1,759; 3, United States 1,739. Duff Stewart Trophy (300yds): 1, H Adloch (Can) 50.10/25.5pts; 2 equal, P Patel, N Ball and J Sweet 50.10; 5, J Underwood 50.9; 6, A Tucker 50.9; 8, M Miller 50. City of Westminster Cup (500yds): 1, J Alexander (Can) 50.10pts. British: 2, P Bennison 50.9; 3, Ball 50.9; 5, C Weeden 50.9. McDonald Stewart Stage two: 1, Bennison 50.9pts; 2, Patel 50.9; 3, Duma 50.9.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: London 64 Swindon 32; Middlesbrough 59 Belle Vue 37; Sheffield 50 Peterborough 46

TENNIS

MASON, Ohio: Men's tournament: Third round: T Muster (Austria) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 6-2, 6-2; M Chang (US) bt C Caratti (It) 7-6, 6-2; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt C Woodruff (US) 6-7, 6-4, 7-5, G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt B Karbacher (Ger) 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, W Ferreira (SA) bt J Courier (US) 7-6, 6-7, 6-2; P Sampras (US) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-7, 7-5, 7-6; T Enqvist (Swe) bt R Krajicek (Holl) 7-6, 6-2; A Agassi (US) bt A O'Brien (US) 6-7, 6-3, 6-0
MONTREAL: Women's tournament: Third round: A Frazier (US) bt M Pierce (Fr) 6-3, 6-3; K Po (US) bt R Stubbs (Aus) 6-3, 6-2; M Seles (US) bt G Sabatini (Arg) 7-6, 6-1; A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt A Coetzer (SA) 7-5, 6-1; M Maleeva (Bul) bt J Capriati (US) 6-3, 3-2 ret. Y Basuki (Indo) bt E Likhovtseva (Russ) 6-1, 6-7, 6-4. F Labat (Arg) bt N Kijimuta (Japan) 6-3, 6-0
SAN MARINO: Men's tournament: Second round: A Costa (Sp) bt G Kuerten (Br) 6-3, 6-3. Quarter-finals: M Charpentier (Arg) bt H Gumy (Arg) 6-3, 6-3; A Voinea (Rom) bt F Santoro (Fr) 6-1, 6-1, G Schaller (Austria) bt L Morejon (Ecu) 6-7, 7-6, 7-5
MARIA LANKOWITZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Second round: S Cecchini (It) bt J Husarova (Slovakia) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; L Cenkova (Cz) bt L Garrone (It) 6-4, 6-0; P Langrova (Cz) bt C Cristea (Rom) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1. B Paulus (Austria) bt K Miskolczi (Hun) 6-2, 6-3. Quarter-finals: S Talaja (Cro) bt B Fulco-Villela (Arg) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. Cecchini bt Cenkova 6-3, 5-7, 6-2; Paulus bt Langrova 6-3, 6-2, S de Ville (Bel) bt C Torrens-Valero (Sp) 6-3, 6-2
SOUTHSEA: LTA satellite tournament: Quarter-finals (GB unless stated): Men: A Hunt (NZ) bt T Spinks 6-4, 6-4; P Hand bt G Henderson 6-2, 7-6, N Weal bt D Ward 6-3, 6-3; M Lee bt D Roberts (SA) 7-5, 1-6, 7-6

THE TIMES
CROSSWORDS

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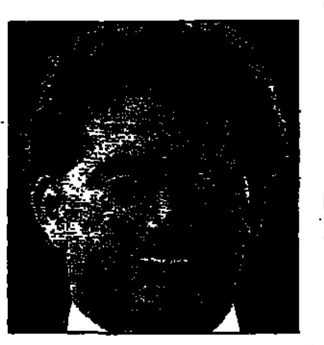
RACING: CROWDS FLOCK TO DEL MAR AS EQUINE GIANT ATTEMPTS SEVENTEENTH CONSECUTIVE WIN

Cigar set alight for record-breaking run

JULIAN MUSCAT



On the build-up to an historic event

Champion on parade as Mott leads Cigar to his barn with his owner, Paulson, in close attendance

The wonder about the $1 million Pacific Classic at Del Mar today is that five hapless victims have been found to propel Cigar into the record books. Only a calamity can stop this remarkable thoroughbred from obliterating Citation's twentieth century record of 16 consecutive victories.

To dismiss his opponents with a casual flick of the wrist runs contrary to the spirit of horse racing. But this should be less a race than a procession; a triumphal march as compelling as anything the sport has witnessed. It has long been established that Cigar's only weakness is his very mortality.

As much was implicit yesterday in the words of his owner, Allen Paulson. Asked whether he had entertained the prospect of defeat for Cigar, Paulson said: "That is too terrible to contemplate." Nor will it be contemplated by upwards of 40,000 racegoers, who will flock to this coastal venue for a glimpse of the legend.

He arrived in style on Wednesday, prompting images of a less savoury chapter on the local roads. Locked away in the back of a vehicle, he was flanked by units from the California Highway Patrol, their sirens blazing as a helicopter beamed live pictures across the Golden State. O J Simpson was once on the run but Cigar has been running for years. His appearance here gains added impetus for the fact that he will not be running much longer.

The Republicans, in town en masse, have picked a bad week to hold their annual convention in nearby San Diego.

Sensibly, Senator Bob Dole and his fellow politicians have bowed to the inevitable. They have jumped on Cigar's bandwagon, doubtless hoping that some of its momentum might rub off on their own. But the essence of Cigar is a long way removed from the smokey corridors of power, or the power politics in other sporting theatres.

With due deference to one Olympic Games sponsor, this is The Real Thing. There are no agents, no money-men, no hustlers around Cigar, who simply runs when he is asked. Americans tired of the Dream Team in Atlanta, principally on the count of excessive arrogance. They have a ready-made replacement in the troika of Cigar, Paulson and Bill Mott, who has trained Cigar with a sure hand.

Perhaps it is as well that Mott, modest beyond his station, does the talking on behalf of Cigar. For he says of his charge: "If you want to know the truth, I think he is a real ham. He responds to every click of the cameras. Some horses are smarter than others; not very many, but he knows the attention is for him. If he were human, I'm not really sure I'd like to know him."

Cigar is the Michael Johnson of the equine race. Yet he will never run in golden horseshoes while resident in Mott's barn.

The records are his not because they have been hunted. They are incidental to a campaign structured entirely in the horse's best interest. That, above all others, is the most attractive statement about this headlong, historical gallop.

There have been no soft targets along the way. There have been no walkovers, as there were in Citation's unbroken streak.

Cigar is a paragon of sport as it once was, which almost certainly explains why Americans now proclaim him their long-lost son. Defeat would break not just his winning sequence but millions of hearts which flutter at the mention of his name.

A Japanese bid of $30 million (£20 million) could not stop him coming home, to where Paulson resides, just a brisk canter from the track. The strain is now showing on Paulson. He has summoned just about every relative to this quiet seaside setting.

So often has Cigar danced on the highwire that the safety net is no longer in place. On this, a day of high emotion, it should not be needed.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: YOUDONTSAY
(3.50 Haydock Park)
Next best: Ela-Aristokrati
(3.15 Haydock Park)

Polar Prince can leave rivals out in the cold

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

HAYDOCK PARK
BBC1

2.45: Equerry looks a shade high in the weights. Tertium is the form choice, judged on his Royal Hunt Cup second; but disappointed last time. Elmi Elmak won an all-aged maiden comfortably at Ayr and is clearly on the upgrade but **Intidab** is preferred. The John Gosden-trained colt won with plenty to spare at Thirsk.

3.15: Horses saddled with group penalties have a dismal record in this race which puts me off Glory Of Dancer, the Dante Stakes winner. Tamayaz was a good third to First Island at Royal Ascot and is the form choice, but I just prefer **Ela-Aristokrati**. The four-year-old has flourished this season, winning at Epsom before finishing a good fourth to Halling in the Coral-Eclipse. Nash House was not right when disappointing in the Dante Stakes, but must overcome an 87-day absence.

3.50: There should be plenty of pace down the stands' rail with Laurel Delight, Shadow Jury and Canovas Heart. They should provide an excellent lead for Insider Trader, who is weighted to reverse Newcastle form with Laurel Delight. However, it may be worth risking **Youdontsay** to overcome a low draw after recording her best effort when winning at Goodwood ten days ago. The in-form Joe Naughton runner came from last inside the final 300 yards and Pat Eddery is booked to ride.

NEWMARKET
CHANNEL 4

3.05: The jockeys in these races matter almost as much as the horses and Prudent Pet looks sure to benefit from the riding of Eve Johnson Houghton. Preference, howvere, is for **Mezzoramio**, winner of an amateurs race at Leicester before just being pipped in a similar event at Newcastle two weeks ago.

3.35: It is not easy to make sense of the much-improved performance by Papita at Goodwood ten days ago. Sent off a 25-1 shot, she made all by five lengths in a fast time. With other front runners in this field, Simon Dow's runner may find it harder to dominate here. Dancing Drop is the form choice on her second to Vax Star at Sandown, but Richard Hannon's filly is not guaranteed to stay seven furlongs. It may be worth forgiving **Fernanda** an unaccountably bad run at Sandown 16 days ago. She had previously won nicely at Nottingham and York.

4.10: The handicapper has raised Green Barries 12lb for his runaway success at Goodwood and this event could hinge on the Bunbury Cup form here last month. Crumpton Hill won that day but there were several hard luck stories. Almuhimm was denied a clear run (as he was in the Schweppes Golden Mile at Goodwood) and **Polar Prince** was another runner who enjoyed no luck. The Michael Jarvis-trained horse had previously looked useful when winning at Epsom and should be a value option.

4.40: In an uninspiring finale for armchair viewers, **Present Imperfect** is a speculative choice to beat a bunch of largely exposed and moderate maidens. Of those to have raced, Nilgiri Hills looks the one with most solid credentials.

RICHARD EVANS

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER
2.15 Snap Crackle Pop
2.45 *Queens Consul*
3.15 Ela-Aristokrati
3.50 Youdontsay
4.20 Alikhlas
4.50 Strategic Ploy

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.15 HANGOVER SQUARE.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.45 Elmi Elmak.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F; HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.15 WRIGHTS OF HORWICH MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,046: 5f) (9 runners)

1	(3)	822	FRUITANA 7 (BF) (Cornadord Brothers Ltd) J Berry 8-10	G Carter	87
2	(1)	54250	HANGOVER SQUARE 21 (B Lalemant) R Hannon 8-10	J Reid	[illegible]
3	(9)	2	HOH DANCER 16 (BF) (D Allport) I Balding 8-5	Pat Eddery	96
4	(7)		SANDWELD (The Stick With It Partnership) C Dwyer 8-5	S Sanders	–
5	(8)	00	IMPISH 51 (J Etherington) T Etherington 8-3	M Birch	–
6	(4)	60	SPARKLING HARRY 28 (Miss L Siddall) Miss L Siddall 8-3	D McKeown	70
7	(6)	02	SNAP CRACKLE POP 11 (J Short/K Wills/D Horn) R J Houghton 8-3	Paul Eddery	85
8	(5)	00504	LOCH-HURN LADY 11 (Hurn Racing Club) K Hogg 7-12	J Quinn	83
9	(2)	0	WHISPER LOW 11 (D Lowe) R Hollinshead 7-12	F Lynch (3)	–

BETTING: 6-4 Hangover Square, 7-4 Fruitana, 3-1 Hoh Dancer, 12-1 Snap Crackle Pop, 16-1 Sandweld, 20-1 Loch-Hurn Lady, 33-1 Whisper Low, 50-1 others.

1995: CRISSEM 8-4 L Detori (13-8 fav) R Hollinshead 10 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Bob Jones	6	22	27.3	N Day	6	10	60.0
P Chapple-Hyam	8	31	25.8	Pat Eddery	19	70	27.1
J Gosden	23	96	24.0	J Reid	13	64	20.3
J Dunlop	26	112	23.2	Paul Eddery	13	78	16.7
P Makin	4	18	22.2	D McCabe	3	19	15.8
R J-Houghton	4	18	22.2	S Sanders	5	34	14.7

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ayr: 2.35 Detachment. Haydock Park: 3.50 Shanghai Girl. Lingfield Park: 7.40 May Queen Megan. Market Rasen: 6.20 Gavaskar. *Newmarket: 3.35 Fernanda.* Worcester: 6.00 Betabetcorbett. 6.30 Winter Belle. 7.00 Faustino

2.45 HARVEY JONES RATED HANDICAP
BBC1
(£5,158: 1m 30yd) (9 runners)

1	(1)	314220	TERTIUM 28 (D,BF,F) (W Smith) M Wane 4-9-3	K Fallon	[illegible]
2	(4)	5-14500	OPTIONS OPEN 14 (D,F,G) (J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-3	S Sanders	98
3	(5)	1-21101	EQUERRY 12 (D,F,G) (J Good) M Johnston 5-8-11	F Lynch (3)	98
4	(9)	360020	QUEENS CONSUL 6 (D,F,G) (Miss H Davison) B Rothwell 6-8-10	M Fenton	94
5	(8)	*6012-06*	*LA VOLTA 24 (F) (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) J Fitzgerald 5-8-10*	*M Birch*	*90*
6	(7)	43-1	INTIDAB 15 (F) (H Al Maktoum) J Gosden 3-8-7	Pat Eddery	90
7	(6)	21	ELMI ELMAK 20 (D,F) (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) L Cumani 3-8-6	O Urbina	86
8	(2)	10-0200	BLAZE OF SONG 31 (D,G,S) (D Boocock) R Hannon 4-8-5	J Reid	91
9	(3)	62-100	NASRUDIN 14 (D,F) (B Nielsen) D Loder 3-8-5	D R McCabe	89

BETTING: 3-1 Intidab, 7-2 Elmi Elmak, 9-2 Equerry, 5-1 Tertium, 8-1 Blaze Of Song, Options Open, 9-1 Queens Consul, 12-1 others.

1995: MOVING ARROW 4-8-10 J Weaver (9-2) Miss S Hall 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

TERTIUM 2½l 2nd of 31 to Yeast in handicap at Ascot (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start, with BLAZE OF SONG (9lb better off) 29½l 26th. EQUERRY beat Sualtach neck in 5-runner handicap at Newcastle (7f, good to firm). QUEENS CONSUL head 2nd of 9 to Give Me A Ring in handicap at York (1m, good) on penultimate start. LA VOLTA about 18l last of 6 to Mushahid in conditions race at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). INTIDAB beat Classic Form 2l in 6-runner maiden at Thirsk (7f, firm). ELMI ELMAK beat Smooth Asset 3½l in 7-runner maiden at Ayr (1m, good to firm). NASRUDIN 12l 9th of 12 to Yeast in handicap at Ascot (1m, good to firm) with OPTIONS OPEN 14l 11th.
Selection: TERTIUM

3.15 ROSE OF LANCASTER STAKES
BBC1
(Group III: £21,760: 1m 2f 120yd) (8 runners)

1	(3)	20-3514	CAPTAIN HORATIUS 26 (C,D,F,G,S) (D Hunnisett) J Dunlop 7-9-3	S Sanders	90
2	(1)	265-014	ELA-ARISTOKRATI 35 (D,F,G) (A Michael) L Cumani 4-9-3	O Urbina	95
3	(8)	420/121	KEY TO MY HEART 35 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Pickering) Miss S Hall 6-9-3	D McKeown	[illegible]
4	(7)	115433	TAMAYAZ 41 (D,F,G,S) (Godolphin) Saeed bin Suroor 4-9-3	G Carter	96
5	(2)	*2142*	*GLORY OF DANCER 46 (D,F,G,S) (A Balzarini) P Kelleway 3-9-0*	*Pat Eddery*	94
6	(6)	156022	ACHARNE 27 (S) (Parrot Racing) C Brittain 3-8-7	J Quinn	93
7	(5)	14	NASH HOUSE 87 (BF,S) (Lord Weinstock) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-7	J Reid	90
8	(4)	2-43436	WEET-A-MINUTE 29 (F,G) (Ed Weetman) R Hollinshead 3-8-7	K Fallon	90

BETTING: 5-2 Glory Of Dancer, 3-1 Nash House, 9-2 Acharne, 5-1 Tamayaz, 11-2 Ela-Aristokrati, 6-1 Key To My Heart, 7-1 others.

1995: FAHAL 3-8-7 R Hills (3-1) D Morley 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAPTAIN HORATIUS beat Wijara 2½l in 6-runner listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, good to soft) penultimate start. ELA-ARISTOKRATI 6¾l 4th of 7 to Halling in Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown (1m 2f, *good to soft*). *KEY TO MY HEART beat Royal* Scimitar neck in 8-runner handicap here (1m 4f, good). TAMAYAZ 2l 3rd of 6 to Gothenberg in group II Sea World Stakes at the Curragh (1m, good). GLORY OF DANCER short-head 2nd of 10 to Grape Tree Road in group I Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp (1m 2f, good to firm). NASH HOUSE *beat The Dilettanti 5l in 14-runner maiden at* Newbury (1m, good to soft) penultimate start.
Selection: GLORY OF DANCER

3.50 CORAL HANDICAP (£15,305: 5f) (21 runners)
BBC1

1	(19)	0-03365	CROWDED AVENUE 11 (D,F,G) (T Wellard) P Makin 4-9-12	S Sanders	98
2	(5)	424213	TEDBURROW 15 (D,BF,F,G) (P Davies) Mrs A Naughton 4-9-8	A Culhane	95
3	(11)	081318	LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Elite Club) M Heaton-Ellis 8-9-5	J Reid	95
4	(2)	041520	LAGO DI VARANO 7 (V,D,F,G,S) (The PBT Group) R Whitaker 4-9-4	O Urbina	94
5	(13)	005200	TADEO 5 (D,F,G) (J Good) M Johnston 3-9-3	J Tate	97
6	(21)	500331	LAUREL DELIGHT 14 (D,F,G) (Laurel (Leisure) Ltd) J Berry 6-9-2	P Roberts (5)	97
7	(18)	128310	SEA-DEER 5 (D,F,G,S) (Binding Matters Ltd) C Dwyer 7-9-2	C Dwyer	98
8	(10)	618258	*RUSHCUTTER BAY 8 (D,F,G) (Tamsons Sealers P'ship) T Clement 3-9-1*	*R Mullen (7)*	[illegible]
9	(7)	54001R	SAILORMAITE 70 (CD,G,S) (S Bowring) S Bowring 5-9-1	D McKeown	90
10	(14)	620640	LADY SHERIFF 5 (D,F,G) (E Mangan) R Hollinshead 5-9-1	F Lynch (3)	96
11	(3)	4725	SHANGHAI GIRL 19 (V,BF,F) (Wafic Said) D Loder 3-8-13	D R McCabe	91
12	(8)	512015	BOLLIN HARRY 40 (D,F,G) (Sir Neil Westbrook) T Easterby 4-8-10	M Birch	93
13	(4)	200-401	YOUDONTSAY 10 (D,F) (T Nicholls) T Naughton 4-8-10	Pat Eddery	97
14	(15)	321092	INSIDER TRADER 14 (D,F,G) (Mrs H Carr) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-7	K Fallon	97
15	(12)	135110	CANOVAS HEART 35 (D,G,S) (M Osborne and Mrs J Woods) Bob Jones 7-8-5	N Day	95
16	(17)	118688	JUCEA 17 (D,F,G) (A Campbell) J Spearing 7-8-3	P P Murphy (5)	97
17	(20)	521236	MOUSEHOLE 8 (B,D,F) (Mrs J Kent) R Guest 4-8-3	M Fenton	98
18	(6)	215410	CHADWELL HALL 28 (B,D,F,G,S) (D Bowring) S Bowring 5-8-0	M Baird (5)	97
19	(1)	048212	ROYAL DOME 9 (D,F,G) (G Jones) M Wane 4-8-0	G Carter	97
20	(16)	210202	SHADOW JURY 2 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Chapman) D Chapman 6-7-10	J Quinn	97
21	(9)	633186	SING WITH THE BAND 22 (D,F,G) (D Allen) B McMahon 5-7-10	A McCarthy (7)	93

BETTING: 6-1 Crowded Avenue, 8-1 Insider Trader, 9-1 Laurel Delight, 10-1 Tedburrow, Youdontsay, 12-1 Sea-Deer, *14-1 Lord High Admiral*, 16-1 Bollin Harry, Jucea, Royal Dome, Shanghai Girl, 20-1 others

1995: THAT MAN AGAIN 3-9-7 A Whelan (9-1) G Lewis 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

CROWDED AVENUE 2¾l 4th of 15 to Rambling Bear in group III King George Stakes at Goodwood (5f, good to firm). TEDBURROW 1½l 3rd of 9 to Bolshoi in handicap at Ascot (5f, good to firm). LAUREL DELIGHT beat INSIDER TRADER (1lb better off) head in 15-runner handicap at Newcastle (5f, good to firm) with LORD HIGH ADMIRAL (5lb better off) 4¾l 7th and SHADOW JURY (1lb better off) 2¾l 7th. SEA-DEER beat Gallnes neck in 6-runner conditions race at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). RUSHCUTTER BAY head and ½l 3rd of 8 to Robellion in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) with MOUSEHOLE (3lb better off) about 2l 8th. YOUDONTSAY beat Half Tone head in 13-runner handicap at Goodwood (5f, good to firm). JUCEA ½l 3rd of 11 to Squire Corrie in handicap at Sandown (5f, good to firm). SING WITH THE BAND best recent effort beat Dominelle 3l in 9-runner handicap at Warwick (5f, firm).
Selection: CROWDED AVENUE

4.20 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SERYKE 5 MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,875: 6f) (5)

1	(3)		ALIKHLAS (H Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 8-11	G Carter	–
2	(5)		ALL IS FAIR (Miss K Rausing) M Prescott 8-11	S Sanders	–
3	(2)	56	NORTHERN PRINCESS 12 (J [illegible]) R Hollinshead 8-11	F Lynch (3)	–
4	(4)	264	ROYAL ORCHID 11 (Mohammed [illegible]) R Hannon 8-11	J Reid	85
5	(1)	23	WELL WARNED 32 (K Abdulla) B Hills 8-11	Pat Eddery	[illegible]

BETTING: 6-4 Well Warned, 5-2 Royal Orchid, 3-1 Alikhlas, 9-2 All Is Fair, 50-1 Northern Princess.

1995: NAJIYA 8-11 R Hills (11-8 fav) J Dunlop 6 ran

4.50 *BODDINGTONS GOLD HANDICAP (£3,894: 1m 6f) (7 runners)*

1	(5)	059001	HIGHFLYING 21 (CD,F,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 10-10-0	J Tate	96
2	(2)	603338	DEANO'S BEENO 35 (F) (B Dean) M Johnston 4-9-6	D McKeown	98
3	(7)	6-82	FANCY HEIGHTS 45 (BF) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) Lady Herries 3-9-0	J Reid	96
4	(3)	0-042	ALICIA 37 (E Landi) J Dunlop 3-8-6	Pat Eddery	92
5	(4)	311104	STRATEGIC PLOY 24 (F,G,S) (Mrs H Carr) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-2	F Lynch (3)	96
6	(1)	031082	DIEGO 16 (G) (C Brittain) C Brittain 3-7-13	J Quinn	[illegible]
7	(6)	00-0682	DOUBLE ECHO 21 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Lee) J Bethell 8-7-13	G Carter	96

BETTING: 3-1 Highflying, 7-2 Fancy Heights, 4-1 Alicia, Diego, 6-1 Double Echo, Strategic Ploy, 12-1 Deano's Beeno

1995: FOUNDRY LANE 4-9-12 J Fortune (100-30 fav) Mrs M Reveley 9 ran

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER
2.00 Lady Joshua
2.30 Silent Expression
3.05 Audrey Grace
3.35 Papita
4.10 Verzen.
4.40 Nilgiri Hills
5.10 Billy Bushwacker

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.35 Literary. 4.10 POLAR PRINCE (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.00 *MONTANA WINES MAIDEN STAKES (£4,659: 1m 4f) (8 runners)*

101	(7)		ALSAHAH (Hamdan Al Maktoum) D Morley 3-8-5	R Cochrane	–
102	(5)	0-34322	BELMARITA 8 (BF) (G Hubbard) M Tompkins 3-8-5	P Robinson	98
103	(8)		CALENDULA (Christopher Spence) D Morley 3-8-5	B Thomson	–
104	(1)	2-06	CANDRIKA 32 (Brinkley Stud) L Cumani 3-8-5	Jo Hunnam (7)	72
105	(4)		FINE DETAIL (K Abdulla) R Charlton 3-8-5	W Ryan	–
106	(2)	0-2	FLAMANDS 15 (Sultan Al Kabeer) L Cumani 3-8-5	R Ffrench (7)	[illegible]
107	(3)	62-2	LADY JOSHUA 31 (Mrs A E Butler) J Dunlop 3-8-5	K Darley	93
108	(6)	0	NATIONAL TREASURE 31 (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 3-8-5	M Hills	87

BETTING: 3-1 Flamands, 7-2 Lady Joshua, 9-2 Belmarita, 13-2 Fine Detail, 7-1 National Treasure, 15-2 Alsahah, 10-1 others

1995: JELLABY ASKHIR 3-8-10 D Harrison (13-2) R Akehurst 7 ran

2.30 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS CLAIMING STAKES
(£4,045: 7f) (12 runners)

201	(2)	1/63005	OTTO E MEZZO 7 (D,F,S) (J & J Cook) M Polglase 4-9-6	W Hollick	[illegible]
202	(10)	300405	BE WARNED 22 (B,D,F,G) (Mildcourts) N Callaghan 5-9-3	L Dettori	80
203	(1)	286334	SILENT EXPRESSION 6 (C,D,F,G) (A Reid) B Meehan 6-9-1	B Doyle	98
204	(13)	3-61011	ORTOLAN 7 (CD,F,S) (J Lazzari) R Hannon 3-9-0	Dane O'Neill (3)	92
205	(5)	5-0	FIRM CONTRACT 31 (P Doyle) C Allen 4-8-13	T Ives	–
206	(9)	00	EL BARDADOR 47 (Spotted Hats) W Jarvis 3-8-11	A McGlone	71
207	(3)	050000	GREAT HALL 14 (B,F,G) (Miss M Fraser) P Cundell 7-8-10	D Harrison	62
208	(7)	604330	SPEEDY SNAPS PRIDE 17 (B) (P Cundell) P Cundell 4-8-10	D Griffiths (5)	55
209	(11)	150500	JUDGEMENT CALL 24 (F,G) (K Weston) P Howling 9-8-8	K Darley	73
210	(12)	1-42404	OH SUSANNAH 477 (D,G) (D Pelsiter) J A Harris 5-8-8	M Hills	–
211	(14)	000451	INDIAN RHAPSODY 8 (CD,F,G,S) (G Ashton) A Bailey 4-8-7	P Bloomfield	78
212	(6)	002006	NORTHERN JUDGE 17 (B) (B Hanbury) B Hanbury 3-8-4	J Stack	74
213	(8)	0-00142	CLINCHER CLUB 5 (D,BF,F) (B Yeardley) M Johnston 3-8-2	P Robinson	80
214	(4)	00	CALANDRELLA 7 (Mrs K Perrin) G Balding 3-8-0	N Adams	63

BETTING: 11-4 Silent Expression, 3-1 Ortolan, 9-2 Clincher Club, 5-1 Otto E Mezzo, 6-1 Be Warned, 7-1 Indian Rhapsody, 16-1 Oh Susannah, 20-1 others

1995: PARLIAMENT PIECE 9-9-1 R Cochrane (5-1) Mrs M Reveley 8 ran

3.05 DANDELION LADIES INVITATION HANDICAP
C4
(£4,202: 1m) (14 runners)

301	(9)	502542	FORT KNOX 5 (B,CD,F,G) (Miss C Markowiak) R Flower 5-11-7	Olga Hedinsky	90
302	(12)	6-53060	WILFULL LAD 28 (F) (D Caddy) M Meade 3-11-2	Trine Langerud	88
303	(3)	50-3264	WILLY STAR 19 (G) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 6-11-1	Debbie Kettlewell	90
304	(6)	355422	AWESOME VENTURE 9 (D,G,S) M Chapman 6-11-0	Sarah Bosley	90
305	(5)	040665	PRUDENT PET 23 (D,F,G) C Fairhurst 4-10-10	Eve Johnson Houghton	93
306	(2)	605012	MEZZORAMIO 14 (V,D,F,G) (T Pryke) K Morgan 4-10-9	Birgit Roesch	94
307	(11)	503-553	AUDREY GRACE 9 (P Dean) Miss G Kelleway 5-10-9	Margaret Mullins	94
308	(7)	00/20/0	SYLVAN SABRE 30 (D,F,G,S) (J Fretwell) K Morgan 7-10-8	Dominique Clerc	–
309	(1)	024-400	LA FILLE DE CIRQUE 8 (CD,G) (R Morris) R Williams 4-10-7	Julia Feilden	92
310	(8)	230600	LOVE LEGEND 58 (C,F,G,S) D Arbuthnot 11-10-4	Lone Haugenhaug	88
311	(10)	000612	ROSEATE LODGE 4 (D,F,G) (J Firth) S Kettlewell 10-10-3	Marlies Gloor	[illegible]
312	(4)	036041	BALPARE 2 (F,G) (Mrs J Callaghan) N Callaghan 3-10-3 (5ex)	Di Arbuthnot	90

RESERVES

313	(R)	006214	*DON'T DROP BOMBS 32 (V,D,F,G) (Miss J Feilden) D Thom 7-10-2*	–	89
314	(R)	00063	*PRINCESSE LYPHARD 4 (P Stoner) M Polglase 3-9-9*	–	82

BETTING: 9-2 Balpare, 5-1 Mezzoramio, 6-1 Awesome Venture, 7-1 Audrey Grace, Roseate Lodge, 8-1 Fort Knox, 10-1 others.

1995: FORT KNOX 4-10-5 Mrs Gabriella Martin (10-1) R Flower 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

FORT KNOX 2l 2nd of 5 to Tatahath in apprentice handicap at Brighton (1m, firm). WILLY STAR 3l 4th of 15 to Kristal Breeze in selling handicap at Windsor (1m 3½f, good to firm). MEZZORAMIO head 2nd of 11 to Great Bear in amateurs handicap at Newcastle (1m, good to firm). AUDREY GRACE 3½l 3rd of 14 to Winsome Wooster in handicap at Salisbury (7f, good to firm). ROSEATE LODGE 1l 2nd of 18 to My Godson in handicap at Catterick (7f, good to firm). BALPARE beat Sweet Amoret ¾l in handicap at Yarmouth (1m, good to firm).
Selection: BALPARE

3.35 ENZA NEW ZEALAND SWEET SOLERA STAKES
C4
(Listed race: 2-Y-O fillies: £10.141: 7f) (10 runners)

401	(10)	110	FERNANDA 16 (B,F,G) (S Al Kabeer) J Dunlop 8-11	T Quinn	98
402	(7)	6	CATWALK 22 (M Brewer) W Haggas 8-8	M Hills	88
403	(9)	2031	DANCING DROP 28 (F) (M Sabah) R Hannon 8-8	D Harrison	98
404	(6)	51340	EYE SHADOW 14 (F) (Mrs D Blackshaw) B Meehan 8-8	B Doyle	96
405	(8)	5214	IMPETUOUS AIR 16 (D,F) (T Scothern) E Weymes 8-8	K Darley	88
406	(2)	61	LADY MAIL 28 (D,F) (G Coull) J Eustace 8-8	R Cochrane	80
407	(5)	62	LITERARY 15 (BF) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-8	L Dettori	88
408	(4)	51	PAPITA 11 (F) (G Steinberg) S Dow 8-8	B Thomson	[illegible]
409	(3)	313	SIMPLE LOGIC 30 (B) (Miss J Reed) A Foster 8-8	P Robinson	89
410	(1)	441116	STRIDE 16 (D,BF,F,G) (Ladyswood Racing) M Meade 8-8	W Ryan	88

BETTING: 9-2 Fernanda, 5-1 Literary, 11-2 Lady Mail, 6-1 Papita, Impetuous Air, 8-1 Dancing Drop, 9-1 Simple Logic, 12-1 others

1995: BINT SALSABIL 8-8 W Carson (Evens fav) J Dunlop 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCING DROP beat Princess Topaz 1l in 10-runner maiden at Windsor (6f, good to firm) with PAPITA 4½l 5th. EYE SHADOW 12½l 4th of 9 to Dazzle in group II Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket (6f, good) on penultimate start. IMPETUOUS AIR 9¼l 4th of 7 to Red Camellia in listed race at Sandown (7f, good to firm) with FERNANDA (1lb worse off) 8½l 7th. LADY MAIL beat Stories To Tell ¾l in 9-runner maiden at Redcar (7f, firm). PAPITA beat Cambridge Ball 5l in 15-runner maiden at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). STRIDE beat The Deejay 1¾l in 6-runner nursery at Chester (7f, good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: PAPITA (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.10 NEW ZEALAND HANDICAP
C4
(£19,738: 7f) (14 runners)

501	(2)	032-031	VERZEN 20 (CD,F) (S Manana) D Loder 4-9-11	R Hughes	[illegible]
502	(7)	252111	GREEN BARRIES 8 (D,F,S) (M Al Maktoum) M Johnston 3-9-1	M Hills	93
503	(10)	/0/6323	PRINCE BABAR 9 (D,G) (G Pritchard-Gordon) J Banks 5-9-1	D Griffiths (5)	97
504	(11)	610110	SASEEDO 30 (CD,F,G) (S Fustok) W O'Gorman 6-9-0	Emma O'Gorman	98
505	(13)	12113-4	DEFINED FEATURE 20 (F) (S Suhail) M Stoute 3-8-13	R Cochrane	90
506	(6)	0-23510	POLAR PRINCE 30 (D,F,G) (Mrs C Stevenson) M Jarvis 3-8-13	P Robinson	91
507	(12)	251140	ALMUHIMM 9 (CF,F) (M Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 4-8-12	K Darley	92
508	(9)	000-331	CRUMPTON HILL 30 (CD,F,G) (T Chadney) N Graham 4-8-12	T Quinn	95
509	(5)	045633	MAID FOR THE HILLS 8 (C,F,G) (C Bracher) D Loder 3-8-10	P McCabe (3)	89
510	(4)	034000	BELIEVE ME 8 (C,D,F,G) (B Adams) R Hannon 3-8-9	Dane O'Neill (3)	96
511	(8)	056201	MOUNTGATE 7 (CD,F,G) (J Coupland) M Bielby 4-8-0	B Doyle	97
512	(14)	022111	NASHAAT 9 (D,F,G,S) (T Satchell) M Chapman 8-7-13	J Fowle (7)	[illegible]
513	(1)	050304	ERTLON 6 (D,F,G) (C Brittain) C Brittain 6-7-11	M Henry (3)	[illegible]
514	(3)	604064	TAWAFIJ 12 (D,BF,F,S) (S Laidlaw) M Hammond 7-7-10	N Carlisle	98

BETTING: 9-2 Green Barries, 11-2 Crumpton Hill, 6-1 Verzen, 7-1 Prince Babar, 8-1 Defined Feature, 10-1 Polar Prince, 12-1 others.

1995: VERZEN 3-8-10 D R McCabe (11-2) D Loder 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

VERZEN beat Laalee 6l in 4-runner handicap at Yarmouth (7f, firm). GREEN BARRIES completed treble beat Dancing Image 3l in 18-runner handicap at Goodwood (7f, good to firm). PRINCE BABAR ¾l 3rd of 18 to Moscow Mist in handicap at Goodwood (1m, good to firm) with ALMUHIMM (7lb better off) about 3¾l 7th. SASEEDO beat Band On The Run 2l in 8-runner handicap at Haydock (7f, good) on penultimate start. DEFINED FEATURE about 3¾l 4th of 5 to Blue Duster in conditions race at Yarmouth (7f, firm). MAID FOR THE HILLS 6l 3rd of 5 to Royale Figurine in conditions race at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). NASHAAT beat Awesome Venture neck in 8-runner handicap at Yarmouth (7f, good).
Selection: GREEN BARRIES

4.40 SOUTH ISLAND MAIDEN STAKES
C4
(3-Y-O: £4,776: 6f) (14 runners)

601	(4)		CLASSIC WARRIOR (Classic Bloodstock) R Harris 9-0	A Mackay	–
602	(13)	304-3	DISPUTED 22 (A Al Maktoum) M Jarvis 9-0	P Robinson	85
603	(1)	5-	HAPPY TRAVELLER 239 (Happy Partners) C Murray 9-0	R Hughes	–
604	(8)		HOSTILE NATIVE (S Lury) R Guest 9-0	P Bloomfield	–
605	(11)		LA MAFARR (H Al Maktoum) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	–
606	(6)	25	LONGWICK LAD 9 (Mrs M Wickham) W Muir 9-0	D Harrison	78
607	(14)	535600	LUCKY ARCHER 8 (W Gredley) C Brittain 9-0	B Doyle	[illegible]
608	(9)	322-652	NILGIRI HILLS 37 (A Struthers) J Dunlop 9-0	K Darley	95
609	(10)	62-52	CHALK DUST 7 (BF) (C Wright) P Cole 8-9	T Quinn	94
610	(3)		DANLORA (C Rowles Nicholson) W Jarvis 8-9	B Thomson	–
611	(7)	0	OCTAVIA HILL 9 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 8-9	A McGlone	–
612	(5)	6	POLISH RHYTHM 7 (G Hubbard) M Tompkins 8-9	M Henry (3)	–
613	(12)		PRESENT IMPERFECT (T Holland-Martin) I Balding 8-9	M Hills	–
614	(2)	3	YUKON HOPE 9 (Cliveden Stud) R Charlton 8-9	W Ryan	75

BETTING: 3-1 Yukon Hope, 4-1 Nilgiri Hills, 5-1 La Mafarr, 11-2 Chalk Dust, 7-1 Lucky Archer, 8-1 Disputed, 10-1 Present Imperfect, 12-1 others.

1995: MY CADEAUX 8-9 M Roberts (2-1 fav) R Guest 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DISPUTED 3¾l 3rd of 6 to Newgate in maiden over course and distance (good to firm). NILGIRI HILLS head 2nd of 9 to Maid O'Cannie in handicap at Haydock (6f, good to soft). CHALK DUST 2l 2nd of 8 to With Care in maiden at Thirsk (7f, firm). YUKON HOPE 2¾l 3rd of 16 to Highland Rhapsody in maiden at Salisbury (6f, good to firm) with LONGWICK LAD 3½l 5th and OCTAVIA HILL 8¾l 12th.
Selection: CHALK DUST

5.10 KFF POTATOES 50TH ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP
(£6,472: 1m 2f) (12 runners)

1	(3)	134/5-0	MISSEL 22 (G) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Johnston 4-10-0	W Woods	94
2	(6)	022206	BILLY BUSHWACKER 14 (F,G,S) (T Child) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-12	R Cochrane	98
3	(11)	21120-0	JAGELLON 11 (D,S) (D Deer) W Muir 5-9-11	W Ryan	94
4	(5)	160054	BALL GOWN 7 (CD,F,G,S) (C Lanes) D Thom 6-9-10	P Robinson	97
5	(1)	12133-3	MONARCH 96 (F,G) (F Salman) P Cole 4-9-8	T Quinn	92
6	(9)	054020	SECRET ALY 28 (D,F,G) (B Veak) C Brittain 6-9-3	B Doyle	97
7	(8)	0215	GO BRITANNIA 21 (G) (W Said) D Loder 3-9-0	R Hughes	96
8	(10)	1402-00	SADLER'S WALK 75 (D,F) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 5-8-12	M Hills	[illegible]
9	(12)	5-53031	ANGUS-G 15 (CD,F) (W Gazel) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-8	K Darley	[illegible]
10	(4)	2-0001U	EDAN HEIGHTS 11 (S) (T Mountain) S Dow 4-8-7	B Thomson	98
11	(7)	5-00322	VOILA PREMIERE 21 (BF,F) (B Gaule) M Tompkins 4-8-1	M Henry (3)	98
12	(2)	005456	KARINSKA 14J (F,G) (G Walling) M Chapman 6-7-10	J Fowle (7)	98

BETTING: 9-2 Monarch, 5-1 Angus-G, 11-2 Voila Premiere, 6-1 Billy Bushwacker, Ball Gown, 7-1 Missel, 8-1 Secret Aly, 10-1 others.

1995: STAR OF PERSIA 3-8-11 D Holland (11-2) P Harris 4 ran

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Leicester (Sky, first race 5.45), Thirsk (Sky, 6.00), Windsor (2.00), Worcester (2.15).
TUESDAY: Bath (2.00), Southwell (2.15)
WEDNESDAY: Beverley (2.00), Hamilton Park (Sky, 6.00), Salisbury (2.15), Sandown Park (Sky, 5.45)
THURSDAY: Beverley (2.00), Newton Abbot (Sky, 5.50), Salisbury (2.15), Yarmouth (Sky, 5.35)
FRIDAY: Catterick Bridge (Sky, 5.55), Folkestone (2.00), Haydock Park (Sky, 5.40), Newbury (BBC, 2.10), Southwell (AW, 2.20).
SATURDAY: Bangor (2.25), Lingfield Park (Sky, 5.15), Newbury (BBC, 2.00), Ripon (2.15) Stratford (2.20), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).
SUNDAY: Brighton (2.30), Pontefract (2.15)
Flat meetings in bold

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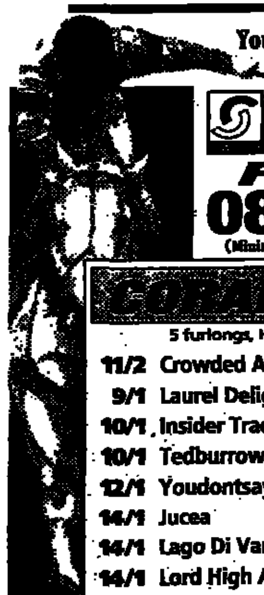

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11/2	Crowded Avenue	20/1	Bollin Harry
9/1	Laurel Delight	20/1	Canovas Heart
10/1	Insider Trader	20/1	Chadwell Hall
10/1	Tedburrow	20/1	Mousehole
12/1	Youdontsay	20/1	Rushcutter Bay
14/1	Jucea	20/1	Sailormaite
14/1	Lago Di Varano	20/1	Shadow Jury
14/1	Lord High Admiral	20/1	Shanghai Girl
14/1	Royal Dome	25/1	Sing With The Band
14/1	Sea-Deer	25/1	Tadeo
18/1	Lady Sheriff		

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RACING

Ocean Ridge to plunder rich prize

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

Channon: runs Muchea

OCEAN RIDGE can give Peter Chapple-Hyam his second success in the Ir£150,000 Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes at Leopardstown tomorrow.

Turtle Island won this group one event for the Manton trainer in 1993, and Ocean Ridge looks like a similarly tough and experienced juvenile, who will be ideally suited to tomorrow's six-furlong event.

Ocean Ridge followed an easy debut victory at Newbury with a five-length second to the impressive Dazzle in the Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket.

Chapple-Hyam's filly underlined the value of that form by subsequently landing the Prix Robert Papin at Maisons-Laffitte and looks good value to upset the main Irish hope, Verglas.

This colt was mightily impressive when winning the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot. His trainer, Kevin Prendergast, has a high regard for the Highest Honour colt and said yesterday: "He's in very good form and the Heinz has always been his main target. But there's no reason why he cannot develop into a classic horse next year."

They are encouraging words for the home defence, but it is significant that the runner-up to Verglas in the Coventry was the Chapple-Hyam-trained Daylight In Dubai.

Chapple-Hyam said: "That gives me a line to Verglas and I'm not too disappointed with that line. Our filly is in very good form and I expect a big performance."

The other British-trained runner is Muchea, whom Mick Channon has aimed for this race since the colt finished third behind Tipsy Creek and Raphane in the Norfolk Stakes at Ascot.

Raphane opposes again tomorrow and, although only second in the Richmond Stakes at Goodwood last time, should be quick enough to confirm the Ascot placings.

Dermot Weld runs his unbeaten filly, Star Profile, but she needs to improve significantly from her debut and may not appreciate the likely cut in the ground, and **Ocean Ridge** can prevail.

Five of the nine runners in the group three Phoenix Sprint are British-trained and **Woodborough**, second to Danehill Dancer in the Heinz last year, can make it a profitable day for Chapple-Hyam by beating the Willie Jarvis-trained Farhana.

LEOPARDSTOWN TOMORROW

GOING: GOOD

3.20 HEINZ 57 PHOENIX STAKES (2-Y-O: £84,500: 6f) (10 runners)

1	(1)	41252	CHECK THE BAND 22 (B,G) (J Jones jr) A P O'Brien 9-0	J A Heffernan	95
2	(9)	21	*MANTOVANI 36 (G) (Mrs J Bolger) J S Bolger 9-0*	*C Everard*	*90*
3	(10)	3113	MUCHEA 52 (F,S) (Albion Investments Ltd) M Channon (GB) 9-0	R Hughes	90
4	(2)	621212	RAPHANE 10 (F,G) (P Savill) C Collins 9-0	S Craine	95
5	(5)	311	VERGLAS 54 (F,G) (Mrs A O'Reilly) K Prendergast 9-0	W J Supple	99
6	(8)	41111	AZRA 22 (F,G,S) (D Dobson) J S Bolger 8-11	K J Manning	98
7	(4)	31	*MELLERAY 15 (F) (Mrs J Magnier) A P O'Brien 8-11*	C Roche	–
8	(6)	121	OCEAN RIDGE 15 (F,G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam (GB) 8-11	J Reid	98
9	(3)	41653	SCOTTISH MIST 69 (B,S) (P Dowling) G Lyons 8-11	J P Murtagh	79
10	(7)	1	*STAR PROFILE 43 (G) (Moyglare Stud Farm) D Weld 8-11*	*M J Kinane*	–

BETTING: 3-1 Verglas, 7-2 Ocean Ridge, 4-1 Star Profile, 5-1 Raphane, 6-1 Azra, 7-1 Melleray, 8-1 Check The Band, 10-1 others.

AYR

THUNDERER
2.05 Captain William. 2.35 Daawe. 3.05 Opal Jewel. 3.35 Celebration Cake. 4.05 Corniche Quest. 4.35 Arian Spirit.

GOING: GOOD SIS
DRAW: 6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.05 STAR FORM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,149: 7f) (13 runners)

1	05	BROCTUNE LINE 12 Mrs M Reveley 9-0	S Copp (5) 7
2		BURLESQUE J Bethell 9-0	F Norton 8
3	6	CAPTAIN WILLIAM 24 I Balding 9-0	Martin Dwyer (5) 12
4	2	DARGO 12 (BF) M Johnston 9-0	J Weaver 10
5	030	FANCY A FORTUNE 28 J Pearce 9-0	G Bardwell 13
6	06	FATHER EDDIE 71 J J O'Neill 9-0	S D Williams 3
7	43	HURGILL TIMES 22 (BF) J Watts 9-0	J Carroll 1
8	45	LEVITICUS 10 T Tate 9-0	D Wright (3) 11
9		PALIO SKY J Dunlop 9-0	T Sprake 9
10	40	ROCK THE CASBAH 14 (BF) J Hetherton 9-0	N Kennedy 4
11	0	*THE FLY 32 B Hills 9-0*	*J D Smith (5) 6*
12	0566	ALISADARA 7 N Bycroft 8-9	R Havlin (3) 2
13	65P0	AMY 7 C Smith 8-9	N Connorton 5

3-1 The Fly, 7-2 Palio Sky, 5-1 Hurgill Times, 6-1 Dargo, 8-1 Captain William, 10-1 Fancy A Fortune, 12-1 Leviticus, 16-1 others.

2.35 HAY & ANDERSON HANDICAP (£4,132: 6f) (15)

1	3143	CHEEKY CHAPPY 8 (B,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-10-1	J D Smith (5) 14
2	0060	FANTASY RACING 8 (D,F,G,S) M Channon 4-9-11	T Sprake 4
3	5505	DETACHMENT 29 (B) P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-10	R Havlin (5) 7
4	1105	DAAWE 8 (V,C,D,F,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 5-9-7	M Deering 13
5	3560	MISTER WESTSOUND 20 (B,CD,F) Miss L Perratt 4-9-7	J Carroll 11
6	-000	DICTATION 56 J J O'Neill 4-9-5	G Bardwell 6
7	4605	SAFIO 25 (G) C Smith 3-9-5	N Connorton 12
8	0440	BAILEYS FIRST 7 (BF) M Johnston 3-9-2	J Weaver 1
9	2334	AGENT 23 J Eyre 3-9-2	D Wright (3) 8
10	0503	NAISSANT 7 R McKellar 3-9-0	S D Williams 3
11	2130	SHONTAINE 9 (D,BF,F,G) M Johnston 3-8-12	K Sked (7) 2
12	5533	SIX FOR LUCK 2 (F) D Nolan 4-8-10	V Halliday 9
13	0260	CRAIGIE BOY 28 (D,G,S) N Bycroft 6-8-7	Martin Dwyer (5) 10
14	2415	SUNDAY MAIL TOO 7 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 4-8-2	N Kennedy 15
15	4014	BALLARD LADY 29 (S) J Wainwright 4-7-10	J Bramhill (7) 5

4-1 Cheeky Chappy, 6-1 Detachment, 7-1 Daawe, 8-1 Baileys First, Shontaine, 10-1 Craigie Boy, 14-1 others.

3.05 JOHN McGUIRE EVENING TIMES MAIDEN STAKES (£3,735: 1m 2f) (12)

1	46	ALFREDO ALFREDO 28 J Dunlop 4-9-6	T Sprake 1
2	6/08	BARBARA'S JEWEL 20 A Bailey 4-9-6	D Wright (3) 3
3	6033	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE 7 D Nolan 6-9-6	V Halliday 12
4	0	BRIGHT DESERT 107 R McKellar 3-8-11	S D Williams 2
5		FIZZY BOY P Monteith 3-8-11	J Bramhill (7) 9
6		JIMMY-S R McKellar 3-8-11	N Connorton 6
7	4	JUNGLE FRESH 32 J Bethell 3-8-11	F Norton 7
8	035	LLYSWEN 15 J Gosden 3-8-11	G Bardwell 4
9	0	TRIPLE LEAP 15 (BF) J Gosden 3-8-11	J Carroll 10
10	43	*UPPER GALLERY 7 P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-11*	R Havlin (5) 5
11	2	OPAL JEWEL 12 M Stoute 3-8-6	J Weaver 11
12	5-6	SINKING SUN 124 (V) B Hills 3-8-6	J D Smith (5) 8

9-4 Opal Jewel, 4-1 Triple Leap, 9-2 Alfredo Alfredo, 5-1 Llyswen, 6-1 Upper Gallery, 10-1 Sinking Sun, 20-1 Jungle Fresh, 25-1 others.

3.35 DAILY STAR OF SCOTLAND HANDICAP (£4,086: 1m) (15)

1	2145	KNOBBLEENEEZE 47 (V,D,F,G,S) M Channon 6-10-0	A Eddery (7) 4
2	2141	MY GALLERY 6 (C,F,G,S) A Bailey 5-9-11	D Wright (3) 11
3	0350	OCEAN GROVE 32 (S) P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-5	R Havlin (5) 15
4	4350	BEST OF ALL 19 (D,F,S) J Berry 4-9-2	J Carroll 2
5	000-	IN GOOD FAITH 168J (CD,F,S) J Quinn 4-9-6	J D Smith (5) 12
6	-021	CELEBRATION CAKE 2 (CD,F) Miss L Perratt 4-8-12 (5ex)	Martin Dwyer (5) 5
7	6522	TISSUE OF LIES 3 M Johnston 3-8-11	J Weaver 6
8	4601	CATHERINE'S CHOICE 19 (D,G) J Bethell 3-8-10	F Norton 1
9	1126	HIGHSPEED 23 (CD,F,G,S) S Kettlewell 4-8-9	Jenny Benson (7) 3
10	-005	DUO MASTER 37 Mrs M Reveley 3-8-7	T Sprake 6
11	4060	MANOY 2 (G) J Hetherton 3-7-11	N Kennedy 9
12	4400	GIDDY 2 J Hetherton 3-7-10	K Sked (7) 14
13	4040	PUBLIC WAY 32 (D,G,S) N Chamberlain 6-7-10	G Bardwell 10
14	6004	HUTCHIES LADY 29 (D,S) R McKellar 4-7-10	J McAuley (7) 13
15	0640	SWANDALE FLYER 57 N Bycroft 4-7-10	J Bramhill (7) 7

3-1 My Gallery, 6-1 Tissue Of Lies, 7-1 Knobbleeneeze, 8-1 Ocean Grove, Catherine's Choice, 10-1 Celebration Cake, Highspeed, 12-1 others.

4.05 AYR FLOWER SHOW SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,980: 7f) (13)

1	4421	MILETRIAN CITY 5 (B,D,F) J Berry 9-12 (5ex)	J Carroll 12
2	0006	BOUNDARY BIRD 5 (B) M Johnston 9-6	J D Smith 10
3	0600	CORNICHE QUEST 9 (G) M Channon 9-6	A Eddery 7
4	6510	GLOBE RUNNER 5 (F) J J O'Neill 9-4	G Bardwell 4
5	0000	DOMOOR 15 (D,G) M Johnston 8-13	J Weaver 6
6	1044	NED'S CONTESSA 16 (D,F) M Dods 8-13	S Copp (5) 3
7	2200	SIS GARDEN 8 (B) T Easterby 8-11	R Havlin (5) 9
8	5030	ROCKY STREAM 19 R Whitaker 8-10	F Norton 1
9	0000	MYSTIC TIMES 36 (G) B Mactaggart 8-6	G Lee (5) 2
10	0003	MADONNA DA ROSSI 17 M Dods 8-5	T Sprake 11
11	5000	EPPETITE 15 (G) N Bycroft 8-2	Martin Dwyer (5) 5
12	040-	BRAES'O'SHIELDHILL 357 A Bailey 7-12	D Wright (3) 13
13	0655	PHILGEM 25 C Fairhurst 7-11	N Kennedy 8

9-4 Miletrian City, 5-1 Domoor, 6-1 Globe Runner, 7-1 Corniche Quest, 8-1 Sis Garden, 10-1 Ned's Contessa, 12-1 Madonna Da Rossi, 14-1 others.

4.35 PORTLAND AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£3,071: 1m 7f) (10)

1	-100	GOOD HAND 9 (C,F,G) S Kettlewell 10-12-0	Miss M Carson (4) 10
2	3324	CUTTHROAT KID 23 (V,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-13	S Swiers 3
3	2052	SEA FREEDOM 9 (V) G Balding 5-11-10	A Balding 1
4	5112	ARIAN SPIRIT 9 (D,F,G,S) J Eyre 5-10-13	Miss Diana Jones 5
5	0012	CLAQUE 35 (B,G) D Chapman 4-10-7	Mrs R Clark 6
6	0442	PEPITIST 21 M Hammond 5-10-6	C Bonner 4
7	3466	NOSEY NATIVE 9 (F) J Pearce 5-10-1	Mrs L Pearce 2
8	0060	JABAROOT 21 (B,F) A McKellar 5-9-7	Mrs C Williams (4) 9
9	000-	KRALINGEN 73J N Chamberlain 4-9-7	Miss C Metcalfe (4) 5
10	505/	VALIANT DASH 557J J Goldie 10-9-7	Miss P Robson 7

11-4 Sea Freedom, 3-1 Cutthroat Kid, 5-1 Arian Spirit, 7-1 Pepitist, 8-1 Claque, Good Hand, 10-1 Nosey Native, 12-1 others.

MARKET RASEN

THUNDERER
5.50 Nordic Valley. 6.20 Out Ranking. 6.50 Magic *Bloom. 7.20 Yaakum. 7.50 Shahrani. 8.20 Plinth.*

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

5.50 TOTE COMBINATION DUAL FORECAST NOVICES CHASE (£3,823: 2m 4f) (4 runners)

1	-012	SASSIVER 7 (D,BF,F,G) P Kelleway 6-11-6	P Niven
2	P-32	*CATS RUN 42 (F,G) J Upson 8-11-0*	*R Supple*
3	-S32	NORDIC VALLEY 7 (F,G,S) M Pipe 5-10-10	D Bridgwater
4	/0-P	SIGNE DE MARS 20 Miss Z Green 5-10-10	D Walsh (3)

6-4 Nordic Valley, 2-1 Cats Run, 9-4 Sassiver, 14-1 Signe De Mars.

6.20 SINGLETON/RICHARDSON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,954: 2m 1f 110yd) (5)

1	0F06	WAMDHA 20 (CD,F,G,S) K Morgan 6-11-11	A S Smith
2	4-31	*OUT RANKING 18 (D,F,G,S) M Pipe 4-11-9*	*D Bridgwater*
3	/03-	JOHN TUFTY 35F (G) J Pearce 5-10-8	M Dwyer
4	U0-2	ELITE JUSTICE 57 (B,CD,G) S Gollings 4-10-7	A Dobbin
5	000-	GAVASKAR 199 (B,F) J Cullinan 7-10-0	B Powell

Evens Out Ranking, 7-2 Wamdha, 5-1 John Tufty, 6-1 Elite Justice, 8-1 Gavaskar.

6.50 FRESHNEY PLACE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,852: 2m 6f 110yd) (5)

1	-P42	*MAGIC BLOOM 14 (C,F,G) J Jefferson 10-11-13*	*E Callaghan (5)*
2	-601	DRUMSTICK 7 (C,F,G,S) K Bailey 10-11-10	A Thornton
3	/F	*WAKE UP LUV 7 (D,F,G) K Wingrove 11-11-4*	G Bradley
4	F20P	*TRUSS 28 (D,F,G) J Upson 9-10-13*	R Supple
5	-040	REGARDLESS 23 (D,F,G,S) J Leigh 14-10-0	B Powell

6-5 Drumstick, 5-2 Magic Bloom, 7-2 Wake Up Luv, 9-1 Truss, 14-1 Regardless.

7.20 SINGLETON BIRCH HANDICAP CHASE (£4,031: 2m 1f 110yd) (4)

1	26-3	*I HAVE HIM 14 (F,G) N Chance 9-11-10*	B Powell
2	-064	WISE ADVICE 14 (F) M Hammond 6-11-4	R Garritty
3	/1-2	YAAKUM 7 (C,F,G) S Kettlewell 7-11-0	M A Fitzgerald
4	-431	STAPLEFORD LADY 7 (F) J Moore 8-10-1	W McFarland

11-8 I Have Him, 7-4 Yaakum, 9-2 Stapleford Lady, 6-1 Wise Advice.

7.50 FRESHNEY PLACE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,804: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)

1	11	SHAHRANI 15F (F) M Pipe 4-11-9	D Bridgwater
2	P62-	MARBLE MAN 102 M Hammond 6-11-0	R Garritty
3	00-2	SILVERDALE LAD 7 K Hogg 5-11-0	M A Fitzgerald
4	04-	CHINA MAIL 217 K Bailey 4-10-11	T J Murphy
5	P/0	HUTCEL BELL 7 R Woodhouse 5-10-9	P Niven
6	0	SCALLYMILL 7 K Hogg 6-10-9	M Foster

4-5 Shahrani, 7-2 Silverdale Lad, 9-2 Marble Man, 5-1 China Mail, 25-1 Hutcel Bell, 33-1 Scallymill.

8.20 INTERFLORA NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,954: 2m 5f 110yd) (5)

1	533-	RIVER CHALLENGE 128 J Upson 5-12-0	R Supple
2	4-12	*SILVER SLEEVE 7 (B,BF,F) M Hammond 4-11-4*	*R Garritty*
3	22-3	PLINTH 33F (BF) N Graham 5-11-0	G Bradley
4	/P1	RAGAMUFFIN ROMEO 10 (F) H Sawyer 7-10-9	N Mann
5	D-51	*LITTLE TINCTURE 31 (F) Mrs T McInnes Skinner 5-10-7*	Sophie Mitchell (5)

7-4 Silver Sleeve, 9-4 Plinth, 3-1 River Challenge, 8-1 Little Tincture, 10-1 Ragamuffin Romeo.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Kelleway, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; K Bailey, 12 from 42, 28.6%; J Jefferson, 8 from 29, 27.6%; J Pearce, 3 from 15, 20.0%; M Pipe, 9 from 47, 19.1%.

JOCKEYS: G Bradley, 6 winners from 22 rides, 27.3%; M Dwyer, 19 from 103, 18.4%; P Niven, 17 from 93, 18.3%; D Bridgwater, 7 from 43, 16.3%; A S Smith, 16 from 106, 15.1%.

WORCESTER

THUNDERER
6.00 Tryph. 6.30 Winter Belle. 7.00 Wadada. 7.30 Evangelica. 8.00 Court Jester. 8.30 Lord Tomanico.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

6.00 POLLY GARTER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,905: 2m) (10 runners)

1	20-F	COLWAY PRINCE 56 (CD,F,G,S) A Jones 5-11-10	S Curran
2	03-4	PUSEY STREET BOY 7 (CD,F) J Bosley 9-11-9	M Bosley
3	43P-	TRYPH 14 M Hammond 4-11-9	A Maguire
4	00P-	BEAUFAN 84 (CD,F,G,S) B Cambidge 9-11-7	Gary Lyons
5	-UUU	GEORGE LANE 8 (F) F Jordan 5-11-2	L Aspell (5)
6	-204	BETABETCORBETT 18 (S) B Baugh 5-11-2	T Eley
7	3P-4	TONY'S MIST 7 J Bradley 6-11-2	R Johnson
8	-0	LOFTY DEED 7 (B,D,S) W Musson 6-10-9	L Harvey
9	0-53	MYLORDMAYOR 33 (S) P Bowen 9-10-2	R Farrant
10	05P-	AL SKEET 234 (CD,F) R Price 10-10-0	N Williamson

11-4 Pusey Street Boy, 4-1 Tony's Mist, 5-1 Tryph, 6-1 Betabetcorbett, 7-1 Colway Prince, 8-1 George Lane, 10-1 others.

6.30 EDGAR THOMPSON NOVICES CHASE (£3,101: 2m) (3)

1	3111	STATELY HOME 10 (CD,F) P Bowen 5-12-2	R Johnson
2	00-2	GREEN'S SEAGO 8 (F,G) H Kavanagh 8-10-12	J Culloty (3)
3	0-2U	WINTER BELLE 25 (V,G,S) P Prendergast (Ire) 8-10-12	N Williamson

4-7 Winter Belle, 13-8 Stately Home, 16-1 Green's Seago.

7.00 WEATHERBYS SPONSORSHIP IN RACING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,763: 2m) (7)

1	0-13	STAR MARKET 14 (B,D,F,G,S) J Spearing 6-12-0	N Williamson
2	14-2	FAUSTINO 14 (B,D,BF,F) P Hobbs 4-11-3	D J Kavanagh (5)
3	013-	*SAMANID 27F (D,F) T McGovern 4-11-1*	A Maguire
4	P56-	PREROGATIVE 4F (D,G,S) R Simpson 5-10-13	D Gallagher
5	114-	WADADA 35 (D,F) D Burchell 5-10-9	D J Burchell
6	4/1-	ASTERIX 11F (F) J Bradley 8-10-2	Guy Lewis (3)
7	005	DICKIES GIRL 10 N Babbage 5-10-0	W Marston

2-1 Faustino, 11-4 Star Market, 4-1 Samanid, 5-1 Wadada, 7-1 Asterix, 12-1 Prerogative, 20-1 Dickies Girl.

7.30 BACK UP STAFF 6TH ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,592: 2m 7f) (9)

1	1-12	HILLWALK 51 (BF,F,G,S) R Curtis 10-12-0	D Morris
2	1-11	EVANGELICA 15 (CD,F,S) M Pipe 6-11-12	C Maude
3	4-2	*THE YANK 65 (B,F,G) M Hammond 10-11-11*	A Maguire
4	52-P	WINNIE LORRAINE 57 (F,G,S) R Alner 11-10-10	P Henley (5)
5	P-1	COMEDY ROAD 52 (CD,F,G) R Lee 12-10-5	R Johnson
6	P0-0	GILSTON LASS 31 (CD,F,G) J King 9-10-6	J R Kavanagh
7	-123	CHANNEL PASTIME 14 (G) D Burchell 12-10-4	Guy Lewis (3)
8	-P61	HURRYUP 23 (CD,F,S) R Dickin 9-10-4	J Culloty (3)
9	PU0-	CELTIC LAIRD 101 (CD,G) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-0	W Marston

9-4 Evangelica, 7-2 Hillwalk, 5-1 The Yank, 6-1 Comedy Road, 7-1 Celtic Laird, 8-1 Winnie Lorraine, Channel Pastime, 12-1 others.

8.00 WELSH DRAGON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,320: 2m 4f) (6)

1	-161	SIGMA WIRELESS 30 (CD,F,G) T Forster 7-12-0	S Wynne
2	0-21	BORN TO PLEASE 18 (CD,F) P Hobbs 4-11-3	R Johnson
3	0-14	BOURDONNER 25F (BF,F) M Hammond 4-10-9	A Maguire
4	3/0	*COURT JESTER 7 M Pipe 5-10-4*	*D Gallagher*
5	FP0-	MUTUAL MEMORIES 75 N Henderson 8-10-0	J R Kavanagh
6	60-6	CHEER'S BABY 42 Graeme Roe 6-10-0	R Johnson

6-4 Born To Please, 3-1 Sigma Wireless, 7-2 Bourdonner, 7-1 Mutual Memories, 8-1 Court Jester, 20-1 Cheer's Baby.

8.30 CHELTENHAM AND THREE COUNTIES CLUB NOVICES HURDLE (£2,408: 2m) (9)

1	-531	LANCER 8 (F) R Juckes 4-11-2	W Marston
2	115-	CONTI D'ESTRUVAL 92 (F,G) G Balding 6-10-12	B Clifford
3		JEBI 19F C Murray 6-10-12	K Gaule (3)
4	PPP-	RAVEN'S ROOST 58F G Jones 5-10-12	P McLoughlin
5	0/0-	SOCCER BALL 282 T Watson 6-10-12	O Pears
6		LORD TOMANICO 397F C Mann 4-10-9	J Railton
7	5-32	ZINE LANE 23 W Hern 4-10-9	R Farrant
8	00-3	BELLE PERK 33 T McGovern 5-10-7	A Maguire
9		MARTELLO GIRL K Bridgwater 4-10-4	T Eley

6-4 Zine Lane, 7-2 Lancer, 5-1 Conti D'Estruval, 6-1 Belle Perk, 8-1 Lord Tomanico, 10-1 Martello Girl, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

WORCESTER: Trainers: C Mann, 5 winners from 18 runners, 27.8%; M Pipe, 30 from 119, 25.2%; P Hobbs, 25 from 113, 22.1%; G Balding, 18 from 88, 20.5%; R Price, 5 from 31, 16.1%. Jockeys: J Culloty, 4 winners from 17 rides, 23.5%; N Williamson, 20 from 108, 18.5%; A Maguire, 21 from 130, 16.2%; R Farrant, 7 from 58, 12.1%; W Marston, 13 from 123, 10.6%.

AYR: Trainers: I Balding, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%; B Hills, 17 from 47, 36.2%; P Chapple-Hyam, 16 from 47, 34.0%; S Kettlewell, 9 from 27, 33.3%; J Dunlop, 8 from 25, 32.0%. Jockeys: F Norton, 4 winners from 20 rides, 20.0%; J Weaver, 18 from 110, 16.4%; S D Williams, 4 from 27, 14.8%; J Carroll, 18 from 142, 12.7%.

LINGFIELD PARK: Trainers: A Stewart, 5 winners from 17 runners, 29.4%; W Jarvis, 13 from 49, 26.5%; N Walker, 12 from 46, 26.1%; M Prescott, 25 from 122, 20.5%; M Stoute, 10 from 50, 20.0%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 14 winners from 68 rides, 20.6%; T Quinn, 68 from 401, 17.0%; T Ives, 22 from 136, 16.2%; B Doyle, 34 from 235, 14.5%; M Henry, 6 from 43, 14.0%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
5.40 Elly Fleetfoot. 6.10 Gunners Glory. 6.40 Chris's Lad. 7.10 Caspian Morn. 7.40 Robellion. 8.10 HAWA AL NASAMAAT (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (TURF); STANDARD (AW) SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH BEST (TURF), LOW BEST (AW)

5.40 LADY ELIZABETH SELLING HANDICAP (All-weather: £2,070: 1m 2f) (12 runners)

1	6-64	*OUR EDDIE 77 (V,CD,G) B Gubby 7-9-11*	*T Ives 1*
2	05-0	SILVER TZAR 54 (F) R Phillips 4-9-8	R Perham 7
3	1306	OWDBETTS 15 (D,BF,F,G) G L Moore 4-9-7	S Whitworth 11
4	3100	AWESOME POWER 47 (CD,G) J Hills 10-9-6	A Clark 9
5	6221	THATCHMASTER 17 (F) C Horgan 5-9-4	Paul Eddery 2
6	0000	KETABI 23J (D,G) R Akehurst 5-9-1	N Gwilliams 3
7	000D	LILAC RAIN 7 (C,G) R Stronge 4-9-1	V Slattery 4
8	2320	ELLY FLEETFOOT 7 (B,G) M Ryan 4-8-10	M Tebbutt 10
9	4006	ZAHRAN 16 (V,C,F,G) J Bradley 5-8-10	N Adams 12
10	-403	DOME PATROL 15 (C,G) D Burchell 5-8-9	S Drowne 6
11	-000	EMBROIDERED 38 R Flower 3-7-10	C Adamson (5) 5
12	0000	LUCY'S GOLD 14 M Ryan 5-7-10	D Denby (7) 8

3-1 *Thatchmaster*, 9-2 Owdbetts, 5-1 Awesome Power, Dome Patrol, 8-1 others.

6.10 LADY JANE CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,621: 5f) (7)

1	01	BIG BEN 16 (D,F) R Hannon 9-2	R Perham 3
2	1	GUNNERS GLORY 19 (D,F) B Meehan 9-2	M Tebbutt 1
3	10	JUPITER 31 (D,G) G Bravery 9-0	C Rutter 6
4	523	RED TEST 51 W O'Gorman 8-10	T Ives 2
5	3	INFLATION 26 R Johnson Houghton 8-5	Paul Eddery 4
6	426	SIGNS AND WONDERS 11 C Cyzer 8-5	S Whitworth 7
7	0	WILD NETTLE 12 J Fox 8-5	A Clark 5

5-2 Big Ben, 7-2 Inflation, 9-2 Gunners Glory, Signs And Wonders, 10-1 others.

6.40 NORMAN HILL GROUP HANDICAP (All-weather: £3,316: 2m) (12)

1	0160	WELL ARRANGED 21 (C,G,S) M Polglase 5-10-0	J Stack 4
2	0414	PARADISE NAVY 10 (B,F,G) C Egerton 7-10-0	T Ives 5
3	-125	SHERIFF 65 (CD,F,G) J Hills 5-9-9	D Harrison 6
4	0222	TEEN JAY 3 (S) B Llewellyn 6-9-7	V Slattery 11
5	6041	CHRIS'S LAD 9 (B,CD,F,G,S) B Meehan 5-9-1	M Tebbutt 8
6	-003	PLEASURELAND 26 P Makin 3-8-7	A Clark 3
7	1433	SERIOUS TRUST 14 (BF,F) M Prescott 3-8-6	G Duffield 7
8	1002	SODJANA 8 (B,D,F,G) R Flower 6-8-6	D Biggs 2
9	1410	THE LAD 15 (CD,F,G) L Montague Hall 7-8-4	Dane O'Neill (3) 1
10	012-	ACROW LINE 429 (D,F,G) D Burchell 11-8-1	S Drowne 9
11	0004	BURNING FLAME 28 R Flower 3-7-10	C Adamson (5) 12
12	0	BOOGIE BOPPER 15 (B) B Pearce 7-7-10	N Carlisle 10

7-2 Paradise Navy, 4-1 Teen Jay, 5-1 Serious Trust, 6-1 Sheriff, 7-1 Sodjana, 8-1 Chris's Lad, 10-1 others.

7.10 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND LADY MARGARET MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,952: 6f) (9)

1		BLOWN-OVER A Stewart 8-11	D Harrison 8
2	4	BRAZILIA 17 (BF) P Walwyn 8-11	T Quinn 9
3	3	CASPIAN MORN 11 A Jarvis 8-11	Pat Eddery 5
4	0	CHILLI BOOM 12 T Naughton 8-11	Dane O'Neill (3) 1
5	0	ELLWAY LADY 19 I Balding 8-11	Paul Eddery 4
6		HOH FLYER M Bell 8-11	M Fenton 3
7		KAYZEE S Dow 8-11	S Whitworth 2
8	00	NO CLASS 52 R Hanes 8-11	A Mackay 7
9		OUR WAY C Brittain 8-11	B Doyle 6

11-4 Caspian Morn, 3-1 Blown-Over, 7-2 Brazilia, 11-2 Hoh Flyer, 10-1 others.

7.40 HOLLIWELL SEED & GRAIN CO HANDICAP (£3,343: 6f) (16)

1	0640	MIHRIZ 14 (D,F) R Akehurst 4-10-0	T Quinn 1
2	2114	ROBELLION 3 (V,BF,C,D,F,G) D Arbuthnot 5-10-0	S Whitworth 9
3	2031	RAMBOLD 9 (CD,F,G) N Berry 5-9-9	R Perham 5
4	0-02	LOUGH ERNE 42 C Wall 4-9-9	Pat Eddery 13
5	0001	TIMES OF TIMES 6 (CD,F,G) M Ryan 3-9-8	M Tebbutt 6
6	006	SERAPE 9 H Candy 3-9-1	C Rutter 14
7	00-0	PRIMELTA 12 R Akehurst 3-9-0	N Gwilliams 16
8	0005	SPEEDY CLASSIC 28 (CD,F,G) M H-Ellis 7-8-11	S Drowne 10
9	4320	SCISSOR RIDGE 9 (C,D,G) J Bridger 4-8-10	D Harrison 12
10	0652	WINDSWEPT 28 (B,F) D Hench Davis 3-8-10	N Carlisle 7
11	4304	INVOCATION 10 (CD,F,G) A Moore 9-8-8	Dane O'Neill (3) 4
12	2104	MAY QUEEN MEGAN 6 (V,CD,F) Mrs A King 3-8-7	N Adams 3
13	0640	ROBO MAGIC 17 (CD,F,G) L Montague Hall 4-8-7	B Doyle 8
14	3600	MERRIE LE BOW 29 (CD,F) Pat Mitchell 4-8-6	Amanda Sanders (5) 15
15	0-00	HONG KONG DOLLAR 26 (B) B Pearce 4-8-3	D Biggs 11
16	2425	LORINS GOLD 12 (D,F) A Turnell 6-7-12	M Henry (3) 2

4-1 Lough Erne, 5-1 Rambold, 6-1 Robellion, 7-1 Mihriz, 8-1 Times Of Times, Scissor Ridge, 10-1 Invocation, 12-1 others.

8.10 COURIER NEWSPAPERS LIMITED STAKES (£3,761: 7f) (6)

1	2102	NEUWEST 8 (CD,BF,F) N Walker 4-9-7	J Stack 2
2	0045	*DAWALIB 9 (D,F,G) D Haydn Jones 6-9-3*	Paul Eddery 1
3	-031	HAWA AL NASAMAAT 8 (D,F) E Dunlop 4-9-3	Dane O'Neill (3) 6
4	5220	*ZYGO 52 W Jarvis 4-8-3*	T Quinn 3
5	0003	CHAMPAGNE GRANDY 6 (CD,F,G,S) M Channon 6-9-2	P Murphy (5) 5
6	0221	*TARNEEM 12 (F) M Stoute 3-8-10*	Pat Eddery 4

9-4 Hawa Al Nasamaat, 11-4 Neuwest, 7-2 Tarneem, 6-1 Champagne Grandy, Zygo, 12-1 Dawalib.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Redcar

Going: firm

2.40 (7f) 1, PERILOUS PLIGHT (J Weaver, Evens fav); 2, Kornlucky (G Faulkner, 8-1); 3, Man Of Wit (W J O'Connor, 9-2). *ALSO RAN:* 5-2 Miss Zanzibar (4th), 16 Blue Grit, 25 Mill Dancer (5th), 50 Bettle Colours (6th), Steel Sovereign, *100 Noble Colours.* 9 ran. 1¾l, 1¼l, 3l, 3l, sh hd. W Muir at Lambourn. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £2.30, £2.20. DF: £9.10. Trio: £16.10. CSF: £10.25. Sold for 8,200 gns.

3.10 (6f) 1, ULTRA BOY (G Carter, 9-4 fav); 2, Jack Flush (L Charnock, 13-2); 3, Jack The Lad (J F Egan, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3 *Swiss Coast (4th), 7-2 Seaside (5th),* 11-2 Under Pressure (6th). 6 ran. ½l, hd, hd, 2½l, 5l. P Haslam at Middleham. Tote: £3.00; £2.30, £1.90. DF: £13.30. CSF: £16.09.

3.40 (1m 3f) 1, ORDAINED (S Drowne, *8-1); 2, Almuhtaram (K Fallon, 5-1);* 3, Gold Desire (J Lowe, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Alabang (5th), 11-2 Milltown Classic (4th), *7 Docklands Courier (6th), 14* Instantaneous, 50 Barda. 8 ran. 1½l, 1¼l, 2l, hd, 1l. E Alston at Longton. Tote: £8.60; £1.60, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £24.30. CSF: £45.74. Tricast: £307.83.

4.10 (7f) 1, HULM (G Carter, 13-8); 2, *Robamaset* (F Jovine, 5-4 fav); 3, Mighty Keen (J Weaver, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 16 Mubariz (4th), 33 Rasin Charge (5th), 50 Rupert Manners (6th). 6 ran. 1l, 7l, 2½l, 22l, 2½l. H Thomson Jones at Newmarket. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.30. DF: £2.60. CSF: £4.00.

4.40 (1m 1f) 1, FOREST FANTASY (R *Ffrench, 11-4 fav*); 2, Urgent Swift (K Hopkins, 100-30); 3, Mels Baby (R Cody-Boutcher, 100-30). ALSO RAN: 5 Brandonville, *12 Pinkerton Polka,* 16 *Backhander,* Shepherds Dean (6th), 20 Intrepid Fort (5th), Whothehellisharry (4th), *50 Carmenoura. 10 ran. 6l, 1l, 10l, nk, 2½l.* J Wharton at Melton Mowbray. Tote: £3.90; £1.10, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £8.10. Trio: £4.70. CSF: £12.29. Tricast: £29.81.

5.10 (5f) 1, KIRA (N Varley, 10-11 fav); 2, Dominelle (M Birch, 7-1); 3, Sunset *Harbour (Jenny Benson, 12-1).* ALSO RAN: 7-4 Time To Tango (4th). 4 ran. 2½l, 1½l, 3l. J Eyre at Thirsk. Tote: £1.70. DF: *£3.70.* CSF: £6.29.

Placepot: £37.60. Quadpot: £8.20.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

2.20 (5f) 1, ALJAZ (S Sanders, 8-1); 2, Napier Star (C Teague, 4-1); 3, Need You Badly (W Woods, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 6 Bowcliffe Grange (5th), Marjorie Rose (4th), 7 Belinda Blue (6th), Scored Again (6th), 16 Tommy Tempest. 8 ran. 1¼l, 3l, hd, 1¼l, 2½l. Miss G Kelleway at Whitcombe. Tote: £9.40; £2.20, £2.20, £1.10. DF: £23.60. CSF: £38.77. Tricast: £96.48.

2.50 (7f) 1, BEN'S RIDGE (Martin Dwyer, *9-1); 2, Going For Broke (D McKeown, 14-1);* 3, Tinkerbell (D Harrison, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Flotilla, 4 Summer *Queen (5th), 9 Gresatre (4th),* 10 Advance Repro, 11 Classic Mystery, 16 Ball-Pet, Common Rock, Superquest (6th). 11 ran. *NR: Spondulicks. 4l, 2½l, 7l, 2½l, ½l.* P Haslam at Middleham. Tote: £9.40; £2.50, £3.80, £3.30. DF: £47.90. Trio: £158.80. *CSF: £107.66. Tricast: £1,178.90.*

3.20 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, HAL'S PAL (R Hughes, 1-3 fav); 2, Polar Champ (W Woods, 10-1); 3, What A Fuss (J Stack, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Failed To Hit (4th), 10 Kass Alhawa, 25 Nezool Almatar (6th), 50 Charnwood Meg, Lovely Morning, *Tathmin* (5th). 9 ran. ¾l, 4l, 8l, 1¼l, 19l. D Loder at Newmarket. Tote: £1.20; £1.00, £2.70, £5.50. DF: £5.50. Trio: £34.20. CSF: £5.59.

3.50 (1m 100yd) 1, SUPER HIGH (Paul Eddery, 8-1); 2, Benfico (C Teague, 9-1); 3, China Castle (J Fortune, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 fav Ethbaat (6th), 6 Waikiki Beach (4th), 13-2 Princess Efisio, 9 Johnnie The Joker (5th), 10 Dancing Sioux, Desert Invader, 16 Enchanted Guest, Tekhnid, 20 Le Sport, 25 Miss Haversham. 13 ran. 1½l, ½l, 1½l, 3l, 1½l. P Howling at Godalming. Tote: £12.30; £2.60, £2.70, £3.40. DF: £31.30. Trio: £381.20. CSF: £71.96. Tricast: £818.32.

4.20 (6f) 1, ULTRA BEET (J Fortune, 5-2); 2, *Efficacy* (C Carver, 7-1); 3, *Sense Of* Priority (Alex Greaves, 15-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 9 Dark Shot (4th), 10 Mons (6th), 11 *Maraschino, 16 Royal Rapport (5th),* 20 Bejan Frontier, 33 Sandra Dee, 50 Erin Lodge, Christian Warrior, Elreas, Pytchley *Dawn. 13 ran. ½l, 1½l, hd, 1½l, nk.* P Haslam at Middleham. Tote: £2.90; £1.60, £2.40, £2.20. DF: £12.50. Trio: £9.80. CSF: £20.20.

4.50 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, SERIOUS SENSATION (G Duffield, 4-7 fav); 2, Menoo Hal Batal (Paul Eddery, 7-2); 3, Welsh Emblem (W Woods, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Biscay (4th), 16 Nicola's Princess (6th), 20 Dazzling (5th), 33 Seventh Edition, 66 Katie Is My Love, Tashtaiya. 9 ran. 2½l, 8l, 2½l, 10l, sh hd. M Prescott at Newmarket. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £2.10. Trio: £4.40. CSF: £3.36.

5.20 (1m 4f) 1, STATE APPROVAL (C Carver, 2-1 fav); 2, Pearl Anniversary (K Sked, 5-1); 3, Induna Mkubwa (P Clarke, 20-1). *ALSO RAN: 3 Newbridge Boy (4th).* 5 Mr Speculator (6th), 14 Crimson Rosella, 20 Belacqua, 25 Righteous Gent (5th), 33 *Northern Clan. 9 ran. NR: Magic Heights.* 9l, 12l, 6l, 1½l, 9l. A Jarvis at Didcot. Tote: £2.60; £1.50, £1.10, £2.80. DF: £5.90. Trio: *£41.00. CSF: £11.79. Tricast: £137.50.*

Jackpot: not won (pool of £13,028.12 carried forward to Newmarket today).

Placepot: £80.20.

Quadpot: £13.40.

Plumpton

Going: firm

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Limosa (M Richards, 7-2); 2, Canary Falcon (7-1); 3, Sir Galeforce (13-2). Arctic Red River 4-5 fav. 7 ran. 4l, 8l. Mrs L Richards. Tote: £4.80; £2.10, £5.60. DF: £12.00. CSF: £24.79.

3.00 (2m ch) 1, Safety (T J Murphy, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Alaftoun (13-2); 3, Nuclear Express (3-1 jt-fav). 6 ran. 4l, 9l. J White. Tote: £3.10; £2.00, £5.90. DF: £28.10. CSF: £20.22. No bid.

3.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Pair Of Jacks (C Llewellyn, 2-1); 2, No Light (5-1); 3, *Zabargar* (5-4 fav). 4 ran. Hd, 2½l. G L *Moore.* Tote: £2.30. DF: £4.20. CSF: £9.88.

4.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, Pond House (D Bridgwater, 5-4 fav); 2, Simply (11-8); 3, Call Me Albi (11-1). 6 ran. 8l, 7l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.40; £1.50, £2.00. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.30.

4.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Galway Blade (J Culloty, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Verulam (11-4); 3, Again Together (2-1 jt-fav). 6 ran. ¾l, 1½l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £3.00; £1.80, £1.70. DF: £5.20. CSF: £7.71.

Last race abandoned because of the slippery state of the course.

Placepot: £55.90. Quadpot: £5.20.

Thursday's late details

Yarmouth

Going: good to firm

5.50 (1m 6f 17yd) 1, Chatham Island (B Doyle, 6-4 fav); 2, Farringdon Hill (4-1); 3, Shirley Venture (13-2). 5 ran. 1½l, 1½l. C Brittain. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £2.60. DF: £4.60. CSF: £6.83.

6.20 (1m 3f 101yd) 1, Welcome Parade (Pat Eddery, 1-4 fav); 2, Lucky Hoof (14-1); 3, Naseem Alsaher (4-1). 4 ran. 3½l, 3l. H Cecil. Tote: £1.30. DF: £3.60. CSF: £4.07.

6.50 *(1m 2f 21yd)* 1, *Chabrol* (R Havlin, 11-2); 2, Sylvella (3-1); 3, Nelly's Cousin (8-15 fav). 5 ran. NR: Nanny-B, Titchwell Lass. 4l, 1½l. R Hanes. Tote: £6.10; £2.00, £1.60. DF: £6.90. CSF: £21.13.

7.20 (1m 3yd) 1, Balpare (Pat Eddery, 11-4 *fav*); 2, *Sweet Amoret (14-1)*; 3, *Unspoken* Prayer (13-2). 11 ran. ½l, 3½l. N Callaghan. Tote: £4.20; £1.60, £6.30, £2.70. DF: £41.50. *Trio: £194.90. CSF: £41.25. Tricast:* £226.90. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

7.50 (7f 3yd) 1, *Velour (Pat Eddery, 2-7 fav)*; 2, Rejoicing (3-1). 2 ran. 1l. D Loder. Tote: £1.10.

8.20 (5f 43yd) 1, Pharaoh's Joy (R Cochrane, 9-4 fav); 2, Lloc (13-2); 3, Bangles (11-4). 6 ran. 1½l, nk. J Payne. Tote: £3.00; £1.50, £2.60. DF: £6.90. CSF: £14.94.

Placepot: £121.20. Quadpot: £36.60.

Hamilton Park

Going: good to firm

6.05 (5f 4yd) 1, Tropical Beach (C Lowther, 9-2); 2, Silk Cottage (3-1 fav); 3, Pathaze (5-1). 8 ran. ½l, 1½l. J Berry. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £6.60. CSF: £17.22. Tricast: £62.57.

6.35 (6f 5yd) 1, Jay-Gee-Em (A Mackay, 6-4 fav); 2, Avinalarf (4-1); 3, Abstone Queen (2-1). 6 ran. 1½l, 4l. R Guest. Tote: £2.30; £1.90, £2.70. DF: £3.90. CSF: £7.82.

7.05 (1m 65yd) 1, Celebration Cake (J *Weaver, 7-1); 2, Bold Amusement (10-1);* 3, Thatched (10-1). Giftbox 11-4 fav. 13 ran. 4l, 3l. Miss L Perratt. Tote: £7.40; £1.50, £5.20, £3.70. DF: £53.70. Trio: £95.50. CSF: £75.14. Tricast: £680.13.

7.35 (6f 5yd) 1, Leading Princess (J *Weaver, 9-2); 2, King Of Show (9-2);* 3, *Sur* For Luck (8-1). 6 ran. Nk, 1½l. Miss L Perratt. Tote: £4.10; £2.10, £2.10. DF: *£7.40.* CSF: £22.07. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

8.05 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, Askern (A Mackay, 2-1 fav); 2, Stormless (11-2); 3, Ambidextrous (12-1). 9 ran. 2l, hd. D Haydn Jones. Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £1.60, £1.80. DF: £6.60. Trio: £16.50. CSF: £13.18. Tricast: £92.80.

8.35 (1m 5f 9yd) 1, Monaco Gold (D *Wright, 9-4); 2, Mentalasanythin (7-4 jt-fav);* 3, Red Spectacle (8-1). Lawn Order 7-4 jt-fav. 4 ran. NR: Prophets Pride. Hd, ½l. Mrs M *Reveley. Tote: £2.80. DF: £2.70. CSF:* £6.53.

Placepot: £173.50. Quadpot: £47.20.

REDCAR

THUNDERER
2.10 Soviet Lady. 2.40 Ajayib. 3.10 Night Wink. 3.40 Miss Romance. 4.15 Mazilla. 4.45 Thwaab.

GOING: FIRM SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 BEDALE SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,826: 6f) (14 runners)

1	0020	ANTARES 8 N Tinkler 8-11	Kim Tinkler 8
2	443	BACK IN THE USSR 39 M Johnston 8-11	T Williams 12
3	6045	THE BEE MAN 17 M W Easterby 8-11	G Parkin (5) 10
4	0	WHO 17 T Easterby 8-11	C Teague (3) 5
5	026	*BONSIEL 14 J Fitzgerald 8-6*	J Fanning 9
6	0	DANCE MELODY 67 G Oldroyd 8-6	Dale Gibson 7
7	0436	DANCING STAR 15 (V) P Evans 8-6	J F Egan 13
8	4440	*LITTLE BLUE 11 T Easterby 8-6*	J Lowe 6
9	3065	MY GIRL 7 J Berry 8-6	*J Fortune 3*
10	54	PETRINE GRAY 35 T Easterby 8-6	L Charnock 4
11	4	*SKIPPY WAS A KIWI 50 A Jarvis 8-6*	W J O'Connor 2
12	3635	SOVIET LADY 8 J Eyre 8-6	*N Varley (3) 1*
13	500	SUPERBOOTS 19 W Haigh 8-6	L Newton (5) 11
14	430	*TIMELY TOUCH 23 M Easterby 8-6*	Darren Moffatt (3) 14

7-2 Soviet Lady, 9-2 Back In The Ussr, 5-1 Petrine Gray, 7-1 The Bee Man, Bonsiel, 8-1 Antares, 10-1 Little Blue, 12-1 others.

2.40 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SINNINGTON MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,704: 7f) (4)

1	2	*AJAYIB 42 J Dunlop 8-11*	J Fortune 2
2	4	DANCING QUEEN 15 M Bell 8-11	*G Faulkner (7) 1*
3	0	LAGUNA BAY 9 A Jarvis 8-11	W J O'Connor 4
4	030	*SODEN 9 T Mills 8-11*	Mark Lynch 3

4-7 Ajayib, 9-4 Dancing Queen, 7-1 Soden, 12-1 Laguna Bay.

3.10 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES (Handicap: £4,645: 1m) (10)

1	0666	KI CHI SAGA 14 (G,S) J Dunlop 4-9-13	J Fortune 7
2	4801	*SAIFAN 20 (V,D,F,G) D Morris 7-9-12*	C Hodgson 5
3	0041	MOSCOW MIST 9 (D,F) Lady Herries 5-9-11	*Declan O'Shea 4*
4	0010	NIGHT WINK 11 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 4-9-8	J Fanning 3
5	0400	*NINIA 9 (CD,F,G) M Johnston 4-9-8*	T Williams 6
6	4845	MAPLE BAY 6 (D,G) A Bailey 7-9-2	*G Faulkner (7) 10*
7	6402	WENTBRIDGE LAD 6 (V,D,F,G,S) P Evans 6-8-13	J F Egan 2
8	0435	SPECIAL-K 10 *(C,D,F,G)* E Weymes 4-8-5	J Lowe 9
9	0334	OCHOS RIOS 9 (F,G,S) B Rothwell 5-9-3	L Charnock 1
10	00-0	GLADYS ALTHORPE 115 (F) J Eyre 3-7-10	N Varley (3) 8

7-2 Moscow Mist, 4-1 Saifan, 5-1 Ki Chi Saga, 6-1 Night Wink, 7-1 Special-K, 8-1 Ninia, Wentbridge Lad, 10-1 others.

3.40 MARY REVELEY RACING CLUB CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,651: 1m 2f) (8)

1	263	IRISH SEA 42 D Nicholls 9-7	Alex Greaves 2
2	00	MISS ROMANCE 15 Miss G Kelleway 9-2	J Fortune 7
3	0300	TIROLS TYRANT 29 Mrs A Swinbank 8-13	J Fanning 8
4	2603	IRISH OASIS 40 B Rothwell 8-12	W J O'Connor 3
5	00-6	ELLE MAC 15 M Bielby 8-6	L Newton (5) 4
6	-065	CLUED UP 8 P Evans 8-4	J F Egan 5
7	0245	TIME FOR A GLASS 8 D Moffatt 8-2	Darren Moffatt (3) 6
8	0400	MY KIND 83 (G) N Tinkler 8-0	Kim Tinkler 1

2-1 Irish Sea, 7-2 Miss Romance, 5-1 My Kind, 6-1 Time For A Glass, 7-1 Clued Up, 8-1 Tirols Tyrant, 10-1 others.

4.15 DRANSFIELD CIU CONVALESCENT HOMES HANDICAP (£3,855: 1m 2f) (6)

1	3-04	*RED VALERIAN 32 (B,F,G) G Moore 5-9-10*	*J F Egan 4*
2	0-35	EFIZIA 49 (C,D,F,S) G Moore 6-8-13	J Fortune 5
3	0526	DOUBLE UP 12 (D,G) Lady Herries 3-8-12	P Doe (7) 1
4	5035	DR EDGAR 7 (D,F,G) M Dods 4-8-11	*L Charnock 3*
5	4111	MAZILLA 9 (D,F,G) A Streeter 4-8-11	W J O'Connor 2
6	0530	LANGTONIAN 7 (V,G) J Eyre 7-7-10	N Varley (3) 6

5-4 Mazilla, 4-1 Double Up, 5-1 Red Valerian, 6-1 Efizia, 7-1 Dr Edgar, 10-1 Langtonian.

4.45 GO RACING IN YORKSHIRE HANDICAP (£2,994: 6f) (14)

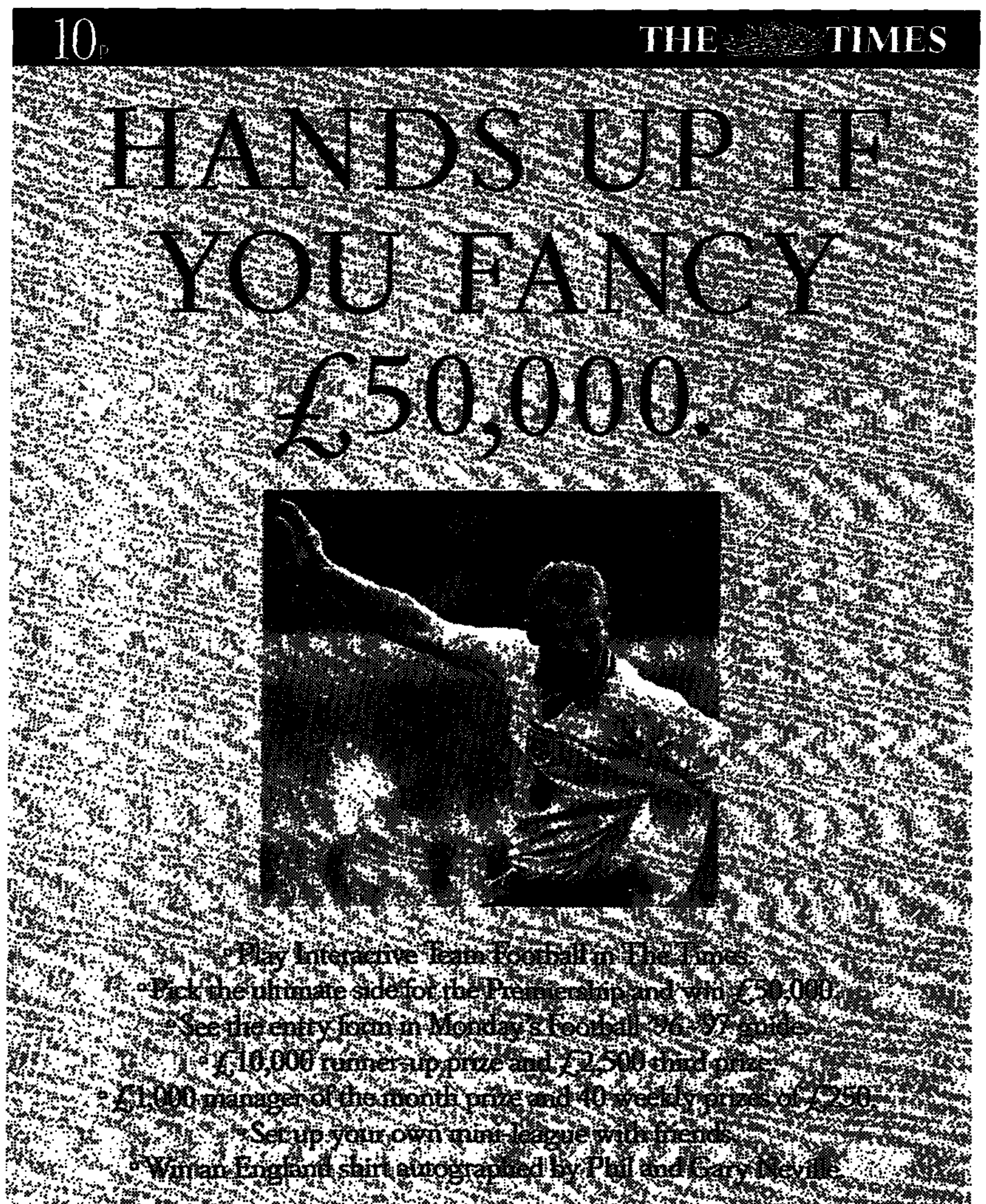
1	1312	THWAAB 17 (V,D,BF,F) F Watson 4-9-13	J Fortune 11
2	5240	SOUND THE TRUMPET 25 (G) R Spicer 4-9-7	N Varley (3) 1
3	3041	SOUPERFICIAL 3 (V,D,F,G) J Glover 5-9-7 (7ex)	W J O'Connor 13
4	6640	NAUGHTY PISTOL 19 (D,F,G) P Evans 4-9-3	J F Egan 14
5	3213	CAMIONNEUR 10 (B,D,BF,F) T Easterby 3-9-1	J Lowe 4
6	5630	*DENSBEN 5 (CD,F,G,S) Denys Smith 12-8-13*	T Williams 12
7	503	BLAZING IMP 16 W Cunningham 3-8-11	D Sweeney (7) 3
8	0303	SWIFTY NIFTY 7 W Haigh 3-8-9	C Teague (3) 6
9	0001	*MILL END LADY 7 (B,D,F) M W Easterby 3-8-7*	Dale Gibson 9
10	0000	MU-ARRIK 25 (B,CD,F,G) G Oldroyd 8-8-6	G Parkin (5) 10
11	3450	SALLYOREALLY 7 W Storey 5-8-4	J Fanning 2
12	0480	*TUTU SIXTYSIX 9 (B,F,G) D E Incisa 5-7-12*	Kim Tinkler 7
13	-065	UPEX LE GOLD TOO 4 (F) L Lloyd-James 4-7-10	Iona Wands (7) 5
14	*0000*	RAGAZZO 23 (B,G) J Wainwright 6-7-10	L Charnock 8

4-1 Camionneur, 5-1 Thwaab, 6-1 Souperficial, 7-1 Mill End Lady, 8-1 Naughty Pistol, Swifty Nifty, 10-1 Densben, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lady Herries, 8 winners from 27 runners, 29.6%; J *Dunlop,* 10 from 45, 22.2%; J Glover, 4 from 23, 17.4%; M Bell, 8 from 48, 16.7%; J Berry, 18 from 139, 12.9%.

JOCKEYS: No qualifiers.



10p THE TIMES

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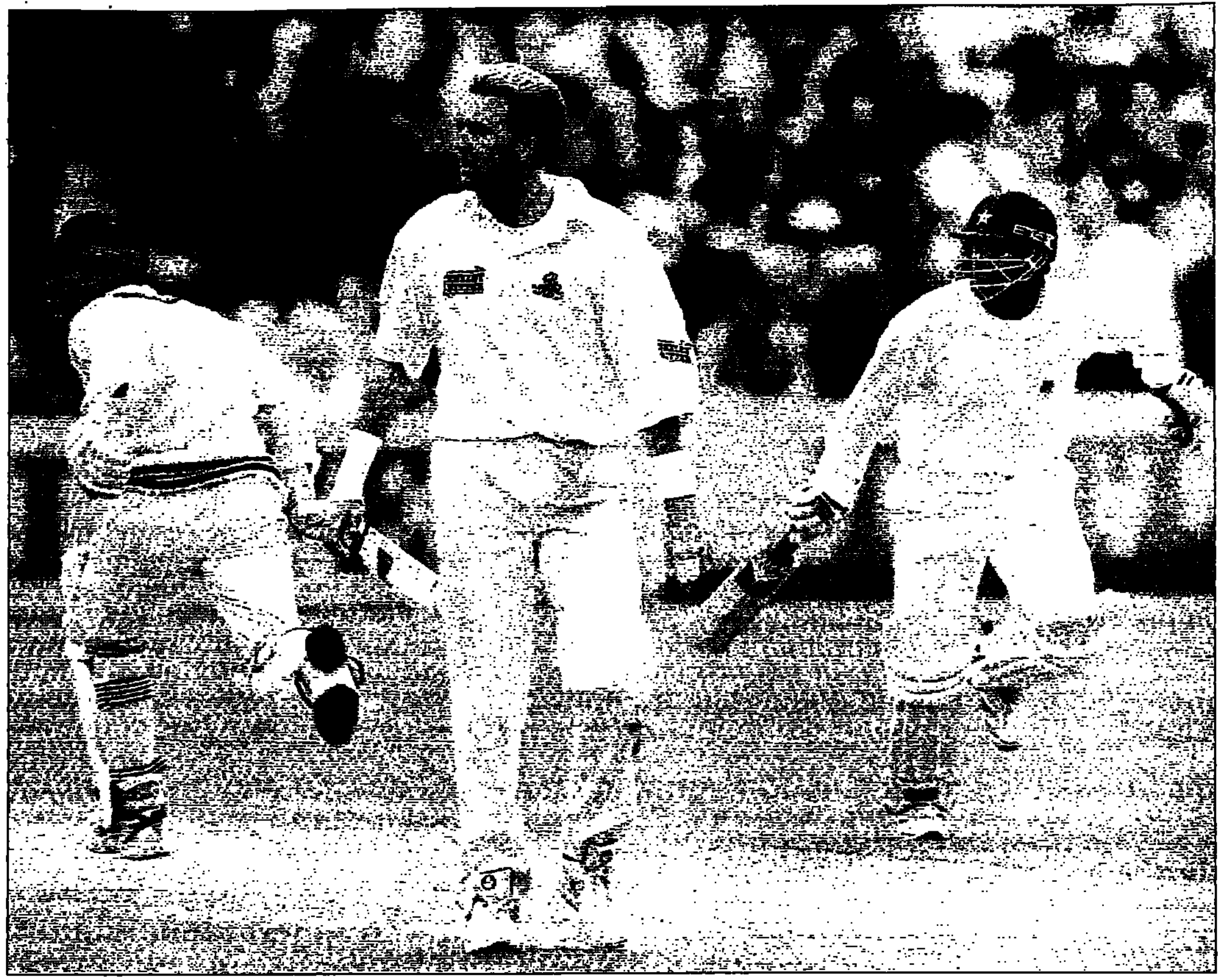
CHANGING TIMES

CRICKET: EMBUREY'S APPOINTMENT FOR WINTER TOURS BRINGS PROMISE OF CHANGE OF DIRECTION

Youth movement gains momentum

MICHAEL HENDERSON

At the Headingley Test match



Dominic Cork shows his feelings as Moin Khan and Mushtaq Ahmed run England ragged yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Perhaps the single most damning comment this summer on the atrophied state of English cricket slipped, unwittingly, from the lips of Richie Benaud, who called Nasser Hussain "a talented young player". He was trying to be kind, and it came out all wrong. Hussain is talented but, at 28, he is young only in the English sense. Where Benaud comes from cricketers of that age put Vitalis in their hair.

Of all the problems that confront David Lloyd and John Emburey this winter, as they prepare to forge a working relationship as coach and assistant coach of the national team, the difficulty of transforming gifted young players into Test cricketers is the deepest-rooted. And young means young, closer to 18 (the age of Shadab Kabir, the Pakistan opener at Headingley) than a man who has played ten seasons of county cricket.

The appointment of Emburey, the former Middlesex player and Northamptonshire coach, for the tours of Zimbabwe and New Zealand, allied to the confirmation of Lloyd's own position, possibly for the next two years, marks a complete shift from one generation to another. In terms of age, experience, attitude, and that strange thing called "empathy", the whole bang-shoot is about to change.

Raymond Illingworth stands down as the chairman of selectors next month and this week Peter Lever submitted his resignation as the bowling coach, the job Emburey will effectively fill. There is a chance for a fresh start — yes, another one! — and the cricket-loving public will happily back the new men if they give youth its head.

Last night, in a Leeds hotel, Lloyd and Michael Atherton met John Barclay, who has been appointed tour manager, and Wayne Morton, the physiotherapist, for preliminary talks about the winter. "I was in Zimbabwe last winter with the under-19 team," Lloyd said, "and Trout [Barclay] did the assistant manager's job in South Africa. It's simply a question of having a chat."

Emburey, who withdrew his nomination for the senior role before Lloyd's appointment in April, comes with the England coach's endorsement. "He's an experienced cricketer who has just left the game, which is important, because it means he is close to the players." Lloyd has already spoken at length to Emburey this summer and fought his corner in recent contractual discussions with Alan Smith, the chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board.

The England camp-in-waiting presents a united front, which makes a change from the shenanigans of the past three months. Illingworth has made no secret of his eagerness to leave a post he was happy to accept two years ago, and Lever is keeping mum on his decision to quit. There may not be factions at work, plotting against each other, but it is reasonable to say a pulling-together would be most welcome.

Lloyd needs no persuading that the best way forward, for the winter and beyond, lies with youth. "Shadab Kabir is not a better player than David Sales, David Roberts, or Owais Shah, who play for our under-19 team," he said. Now there is a statement. Kabir, who made his Test debut at Lord's, looks a very handy young batsman.

Does that mean, therefore, that Sales, who made a double century for Northamptonshire on his championship debut two weeks ago, will be considered for the full winter tour? Apparently, it does, though he might not get in ahead of Anthony McGrath, the 20-year-old Yorkshire batsman who made his maiden first-class century for England A in Pakistan last winter.

In future, can we assume that young players with talent and ambition will get chances ahead of people who have been tried repeatedly, and underachieved almost as often? "I don't need any convincing about that," Lloyd said, before adding emphatically and significantly, "and neither does the captain." Hoo-bloody-ray! That's real progress.

This is the stuff of revolution and revolutions have been known to devour their own, so Lloyd should tread carefully. In the meantime anybody who holds English cricket dear should wish him well. Now, let's see that lovely guillotine.

Tendulkar to take over as India captain

By Simon Wilde

THE India cricket selectors made one of their less surprising decisions yesterday when they replaced Mohammad Azharuddin as national captain with Sachin Tendulkar. Tendulkar, reputedly the highest paid cricketer in the world, has long been earmarked for the post but, at 23, inherits it as the youngest international captain in the game. When India play against Australia in Delhi in October, he will become one of the youngest leaders in Test history.

Azharuddin's fate was sealed during the recent tour of England, when both Test and one-day series were lost. His style of batting, unlike his leadership, had always been colourful but on this visit he notably failed to reproduce the dazzling form he showed during the 1990 tour.

In five Test innings he scored 42 runs and there was no reason to extend his seven-year tenure of office.

"We felt Azharuddin's performance as captain was not up to the mark for the last couple of series," Gundappa Vishwanath, the chairman of the selection committee, said. "We need a change for the two tours."

Tendulkar, India's vice-captain for some time, possesses a fine cricket brain and should be a natural captain. His relative youth ought not to be a handicap because, as one of the most precocious talents the sport has known, he has played the game at a serious level for nearly ten years. His contributions as first lieutenant have been significant and he will have no problem commanding the respect of his troops.

His initial appointment is for two one-day tournaments, in Sri Lanka later this month and in Canada next month, but the expectation is that he will lead his country for years to come.

After their one-off Test with Australia, India play Test series against South Africa (home and away) and West Indies. It is not inconceivable that when they visit the Caribbean next spring, Tendulkar will lead one side and Brian Lara — with whom he vies for the unofficial title of world's best batsman and is himself a captain-in-waiting — the other.

Both players have recently become rich through displaying their considerable talents around the world, but the possibility of Tendulkar returning to Yorkshire in 1997 for a second season of county cricket — he first played for them in 1992 — has already been ruled out by the club because of India's heavy international schedule. Tendulkar hardly needs the work; he signed a sponsorship deal with WorldTel, an American company, for a reported $10 million, in 1994.

Tendulkar: young leader

India are expected to name their full party for Sri Lanka and Canada this weekend. Whether Azharuddin, 33, should be included for his batting will be one of the questions to most tax the selectors. His Test record is outstanding — 4,362 runs at an average of 44.96 from 71 matches — but as Saurav Ganguly's emergence in England confirmed, the next generation of Indian batsmen is already on the march.

Azharuddin led India to 14 victories in 37 Tests, making him their most successful captain, ahead of Gavaskar and the Nawab of Pataudi Jr, who is the youngest man to captain India, at 21. But all those victories came on favourable home pitches and there were repeated calls for his resignation, especially after India's failed World Cup campaign earlier this year.

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NEWS OF THE WORLD

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Glamorgan v Leicestershire

SWANSEA (second day of four): Glamorgan, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 403 runs behind Leicestershire

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

V J Wells b Croft	44
D L Maddy c Gibson b Butcher	43
G I Macmillan b Butcher	18
B F Smith c and b Cottey	190
*P V Simmons c Maynard b Croft	92
A Habib c Morris b Thomas	34
†P A Nixon c Croft b Cottey	42
D J Millns c sub b Croft	6
G J Parsons c Morris b Cottey	0
A R K Pierson not out	13
M T Brimson c Evans b Cottey	4
Extras (b 2, lb 8, w 10, nb 30)	50
Total	536

Score at 120 overs: 453-5

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-89, 2-95, 3-124, 4-324, 5-395, 6-485, 7-494, 8-496, 9-527

BOWLING: Gibson 24-4-131-0, Thomas 21-1-97-1; Butcher 26-2-112-2; Croft 52-8-137-3; Kendrick 1.3-1-0-0; Maynard 0.3-0-0-0, Cottey 17-2-49-4

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James c Wells b Millns	5
H Morris run out	8
A W Evans c Simmons b Wells	13
*M P Maynard b Simmons	21
P A Cottey not out	58
G P Butcher c Wells b Simmons	3
†C P Metson b Brimson	1
O D Gibson not out	6
Extras (lb 3, w 1, nb 14)	18
Total (6 wkts, 39 overs)	133

R D B Croft, N M Kendrick and S D Thomas to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-28, 3-35, 4-104, 5-118, 6-127.

BOWLING: Millns 11-1-64-1, Parsons 10-5-16-0; Wells 7-0-25-1; Simmons 8-3-16-2, Brimson 3-0-9-1

Bonus points: Glamorgan 2
Leicestershire 6

Umpires: A A Jones and R A White

Hampshire v Gloucestershire

SOUTHAMPTON (second day of four): Hampshire, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 167 runs ahead of Gloucestershire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings 186 (M Keech 55, C A Walsh 5 for 34)

Second Innings

*J P Stephenson c Williams b Lewis	0
J S Laney c Williams b Walsh	27
K D James not out	34
R A Smith c Davis b Walsh	77
W S Kendall not out	0
Extras (b 4, lb 1, nb 2)	7
Total (3 wkts)	145

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-33, 3-145

BOWLING: Walsh 9.3-4-15-2, Lewis 7-0-32-1; Alleyne 4-1-17-0; Davis 13-1-44-0, Ball 7-0-32-0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

D R Hewson c Laney b Connor	87
M G N Windows c Kendall b Bovill	0
T H C Hancock b Connor	3
M A Lynch b Connor	0
M W Alleyne b Connor	17
A Symonds c Aymes b Connor	26
†R C J Williams b Connor	16
R P Davis lbw b Connor	6
M C J Ball c Maru b Connor	0
J Lewis c Aymes b Connor	0
*C A Walsh not out	0
Extras (lb 4, w 1, nb 4)	9
Total (64.1 overs)	164

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-15, 3-19, 4-76, 5-142, 6-143, 7-163, 8-163, 9-163

BOWLING: Connor 18.1-8-38-9, Bovill 5-0-21-1; Stephenson 10-3-30-0; James 11-5-18-0, Maru 6-3-17-0; Udal 8-2-18-0, Keech 6-0-18-0

Bonus points: Hampshire 4
Gloucestershire 4.

Umpires: J C Balderstone and P Willey

Lancashire v Surrey

SOUTHPORT (third day of four): Surrey (21pts) beat Lancashire (4) by 140 runs

SURREY: First Innings 211 (I D Austin 4 for 46, P J Martin 4 for 59)

Second Innings

D J Bicknell b Elworthy	42
M A Butcher c Titchard b Chapple	66
J D Ratcliffe c Watkinson b Gallian	8
N Shahid c Hegg b Gallian	66
A D Brown b Gallian	1
*A J Hollioake c Titchard b Chapple	22
B P Julian b Gallian	119
†G J Kersey c Hegg b Gallian	24
M P Bicknell c and b Gallian	23
R M Pearson c Hegg b Elworthy	13
J E Benjamin not out	38
Extras (b 4, lb 8, nb 8)	20
Total	442

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-96, 2-123, 3-123, 4-124, 5-159, 6-249, 7-366, 8-371, 9-396.

BOWLING: Martin 3-1-27-0; Austin 8-1-44-0; Elworthy 24.1-4-88-2; Chapple 15-2-93-2; Gallian 24-4-115-6; Watkinson 10-2-39-0; Titchard 5-0-24-0

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 145 (M P Bicknell 5 for 48, J E Benjamin 4 for 38)

Second Innings

J E R Gallian c Brown b M P Bicknell	57
S P Titchard b Benjamin	54
N J Speak b Benjamin	39
N H Fairbrother b M P Bicknell	1
G D Lloyd c Kersey b Julian	46
*M Watkinson c Kersey b Julian	53
†W K Hegg b Julian	0
I D Austin st Kersey b Pearson	40
G Chapple not out	12
S Elworthy c Ratcliffe b Julian	17
P J Martin b Julian	0
Extras (b 10, lb 4, w 4, nb 31)	49
Total	368

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-96, 2-174, 3-180, 4-180, 5-245, 6-261, 7-329, 8-335, 9-368

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 23-7-83-2, Benjamin 21-5-80-2, Julian 20.3-3-99-5, Ratcliffe 9-2-30-0, Pearson 9-1-44-1, Hollioake 2-0-18-0

Umpires: J W Holder and K J Lyons

Northamptonshire v Kent

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Northamptonshire, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, need 92 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Kent

KENT: First Innings 318 (S C Willis 78)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

R R Montgomerie c Patel b McCague	8
*A Fordham c Llong b McCague	53
D J Sales b McCague	0
D J Capel c Hooper b Wren	1
K M Curran c Ward b Headley	45
T C Walton b Patel	0
A L Penberthy c Fulton b Patel	14
J N Snape c Willis b McCague	0
†D Ripley c Willis b McCague	5
C E L Ambrose c Hooper b Patel	2
J P Taylor not out	0
Extras (lb 5)	5
Total (43.4 overs)	133

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-12, 3-23, 4-92, 5-97, 6-109, 7-117, 8-129, 9-131.

BOWLING: McCague 13-5-21-5; Headley 13-1-41-1, Wren 3-1-20-1; Patel 13.4-2-46-3; Hooper 1-1-0-0

Second Innings

R R Montgomerie not out	30
*A Fordham lbw b Wren	1
D J Sales c Ward b Wren	25
D J Capel c Ward b Wren	0
K M Curran not out	29
Extras (lb 4, nb 2)	6
Total (3 wkts)	91

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-34, 3-34

BOWLING: McCague 4-0-15-0; Wren 7-0-30-3; Headley 6-1-13-0; Patel 6-1-15-0, Fleming 3-0-14-0

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 4 Kent 7.

Umpires: V A Holder and B J Meyer.

Nottinghamshire v Middlesex

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four): Middlesex, with one first-innings wicket in hand, are 150 runs ahead of Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 257 (U Afzaal 51, P C R Tufnell 4 for 41)

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

P N Weekes c and b Cairns	58
J C Pooley lbw b Cairns	21
*M R Ramprakash run out	71
J D Carr c and b Afford	49
O A Shah c Noon b Afzaal	53
†K R Brown not out	63
K P Dutch b Afford	27
R L Johnson c and b Afford	15
R A Fay b Evans	14
A R C Fraser b Evans	9
P C R Tufnell not out	4
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 1, nb 12)	23
Total (9 wkts, 104 overs)	407

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-159, 3-164, 4-262, 5-276, 6-326, 7-357, 8-382, 9-402.

BOWLING: Cairns 17-0-77-2; Mike 16-1-68-0; Evans 17-3-68-2, Bowen 13-0-47-0; Afford 29-1-82-3, Afzaal 12-0-55-1

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 6
Middlesex 8.

Umpires: H D Bird and N T Plews.

Somerset v Essex

TAUNTON (second day of four): Somerset, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 212 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Essex

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch c Trescothick b Rose	201
A P Grayson b Kerr	14
*P J Prichard c and b Batty	23
S G Law c Harden b van Troost	63
S D Peters c Parsons b van Troost	4
†R J Rollins b Batty	10
R C Irani c Harden b Kerr	87
M C Ilott b van Troost	13
N F Williams c Harden b van Troost	11
A P Cowan c Turner b Rose	4
P M Such not out	5
Extras (lb 10, nb 20)	30
Total (108 overs)	465

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52, 2-118, 3-219, 4-229, 5-244, 6-414, 7-442, 8-452, 9-457

BOWLING: van Troost 20-2-90-4, Rose 26-5-100-2, Lee 20-3-74-0, Kerr 17-3-64-2, Batty 23-2-115-2, Parsons 2-0-12-0

SOMERSET: First Innings

M N Lathwell lbw b Williams	12
M E Trescothick lbw b Such	31
*P D Bowler c Law b Such	88
R J Harden b Cowan	41
K A Parsons lbw b Such	24
S Lee c Prichard b Such	18
†R J Turner b Such	0
G D Rose c Gooch b Irani	12
J I D Kerr b Irani	0
J D Batty not out	0
A P van Troost b Such	4
Extras (b 5, lb 2, w 1, nb 8)	16
Total (87.2 overs)	248

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-59, 3-132, 4-195, 5-221, 6-221, 7-240, 8-240, 9-242.

BOWLING: Ilott 17-5-50-0. Williams 13-3-59-1. Cowan 10-5-31-1. Such 31.2-10-63-6; Grayson 4-1-8-0; Law 4-2-4-0; Irani 8-1-15-2

Second Innings

M N Lathwell not out	7
M E Trescothick not out	0
Total (no wkt)	7

BOWLING: Ilott 2-1-7-0, Such 2-2-0-0

Bonus points: Somerset 5 Essex 8

Umpires: T E Jesty and G I Burgess

Sussex v Derbyshire

HOVE (second day of four): Sussex, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 108 runs behind Derbyshire

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 320 (K J Barnett 55, T J G O'Gorman 54)

SUSSEX: First Innings

C W J Athey c Jones b Malcolm	6
K Greenfield c Rollins b Malcolm	12
*A P Wells c Adams b DeFreitas	35
M P Speight not out	92
R J Kirtley b Malcolm	0
E S H Giddins b Malcolm	1
K Newell c Rollins b Wells	30
D R Law lbw b Wells	8
†P Moores not out	8
Extras (lb 16, nb 4)	20
Total (7 wkts, 72 overs)	212

I D K Salisbury and V C Drakes to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-21, 3-85, 4-86, 5-86, 6-177, 7-191

BOWLING: Malcolm 16-2-81-4, DeFreitas 34-10-75-1, Dean 7-2-21-0, Wells 15-6-19-2

Bonus points: Sussex 5 Derbyshire 6

Umpires: B Dudleston and R Palmer

Warwickshire v Durham

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 114 runs ahead of Durham

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 306 (D P Ostler 86, N M K Smith 64; D M Cox 5 for 97)

Second Innings

A J Moles not out	40
M J Powell not out	21
Extras (lb 2)	2
Total (no wkt)	63

BOWLING: Brown 6-0-21-0; Wood 6-2-27-0, Cox 8-4-13-0; Weston 1-1-0-0.

DURHAM: First Innings

S L Campbell c Ostler b Smith	64
S Hutton lbw b Smith	27
J A Daley lbw b Smith	23
P Bainbridge lbw b Munton	54
*M A Roseberry c Ostler b Munton	18
R M S Weston lbw b Munton	3
†D G C Ligertwood not out	3
D M Cox c Munton b Giles	45
J Wood c Ostler b Smith	1
S J E Brown b Giles	0
N Killeen lbw b Smith	6
Extras (b 4, lb 5, nb 2)	11
Total (105 overs)	255

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-72, 2-107, 3-154, 4-188, 5-196, 6-197, 7-244, 8-245, 9-248

BOWLING: Pollock 19-6-64-0; Munton 16-4-53-3, Smith 41-14-76-5, Giles 23-7-53-2

Bonus points: Warwickshire 7 Durham 6

Umpires: J D Bond and G Sharp

Tour match

Worcestershire v South Africa A

WORCESTER (first day of four: South Africa A won toss): South Africa A, with four second-innings wickets in hand, are 285 runs ahead of Worcestershire

SOUTH AFRICA A: First Innings

S G Koenig b Thomas	6
G F J Liebenberg c Rhodes b Church	48
H H Gibbs c Leatherdale b Thomas	47
*J B Commins run out	61
D N Crookes lbw b Thomas	5
N Boje lbw b Preece	0
†S J Palframan c Rhodes b Thomas	5
M W Pringle c Rhodes b Preece	0
G Smith c Spiring b Preece	[illegible]
G Gilder c Weston b Preece	[illegible]
P R Adams not out	0
Extras (lb 1, w 8, nb 16)	25
Total	202

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-82, 3-168, 4-179, 5-183, 6-196, 7-197, 8-197, 9-197.

BOWLING: Thomas 12-3-33-4, Ellis 6-0-34-0, Preece 15.2-0-73-4, Church 4-1-11-1, Leatherdale 8-0-37-0, Solanki 4-1-7-0

Second Innings

S G Koenig c Leatherdale b Thomas	0
G F J Liebenberg c Rhodes b Leatherdale	33
H H Gibbs c Ralph b Ellis	5
*J B Commins b Leatherdale	22
D N Crookes not out	50
N Boje c Spiring b Leatherdale	4
†S J Palframan b Leatherdale	6
M W Pringle not out	18
Extras (lb 7, w 3, nb 12)	22
Total (6 wkts)	160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-11, 3-76, 4-87, 5-96, 6-114.

BOWLING: Thomas 8-0-58-1, Ellis 5-1-22-1, Preece 7-1-26-0; Leatherdale 10-2-47-4

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

W P C Weston c Palframan b Gilder	3
M J Church b Gilder	0
K R Spiring c Boje b Smith	33
V S Solanki c Palframan b Gilder	14
D A Leatherdale c Palframan b Gilder	2
J T Ralph b Gilder	[illegible]
*†S J Rhodes lbw b Gilder	0
S W K Ellis c Adams b Gilder	4
P A Thomas c Crookes b Smith	8
M Amjad c Palframan b Gilder	1
B E A Preece not out	0
Extras (lb 1, w 3, nb 8)	12
Total	77

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-9, 3-33, 4-41, 5-51, 6-51, 7-59, 8-69, 9-75.

BOWLING: Pringle 7-1-41-0; Gilder 10-5-22-8; Smith 3.5-1-13-2

Umpires: B Leadbeater and N G Cowley

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CRICKET

Gallian fails to block Surrey's rise to summit

By Pat Gibson

SOUTHPORT (third day of four): Surrey (21pts) beat Lancashire (4) by 140 runs

SURREY'S climb to the top of the county championship was not quite as straightforward as they had imagined it would be but they always knew that they were going to get there in the end, for the simple reason that Lancashire were facing a bigger mountain than any side has scaled.

Viewed through the bottom of a beer glass from the Late Cut Bar, situated, appropriately enough, just beyond the third-man boundary, their task of scoring 509 to win in 181 overs probably did not seem too difficult. The reality was different. As Samuel Goldwyn once said: "In two words: Im-possible."

Gallian: career best

Only once in cricket history has a team scored more than 500 runs to win and Lancashire needed seven more than Middlesex made when an unbroken seventh-wicket stand of 271 between Patsy Hendren and Tufty Mann took them to a four-wicket victory over Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge in 1925.

They probably said that was im-possible, too, and there were times yesterday when it did look as though Lancashire were capable of making history of their own on a pitch that had demanded a visit from Harry Brind, the Test and County Cricket Board's inspector of pitches, when 15 wickets fell on the first day.

The remarkable thing about it was that Lancashire had seemed on their knees when Surrey were adding 76 to their overnight 366 for six in the first hour of the day despite the efforts of Gallian, who picked up three of the last four wickets to finish with career-best figures of six for 115.

Gallian's success indicated that the relay pitch had not lost all of its spite and he soon confirmed that for himself by taking any number of blows around the hands as he and Titchard took Lancashire out of the foothills with an opening partnership of 96.

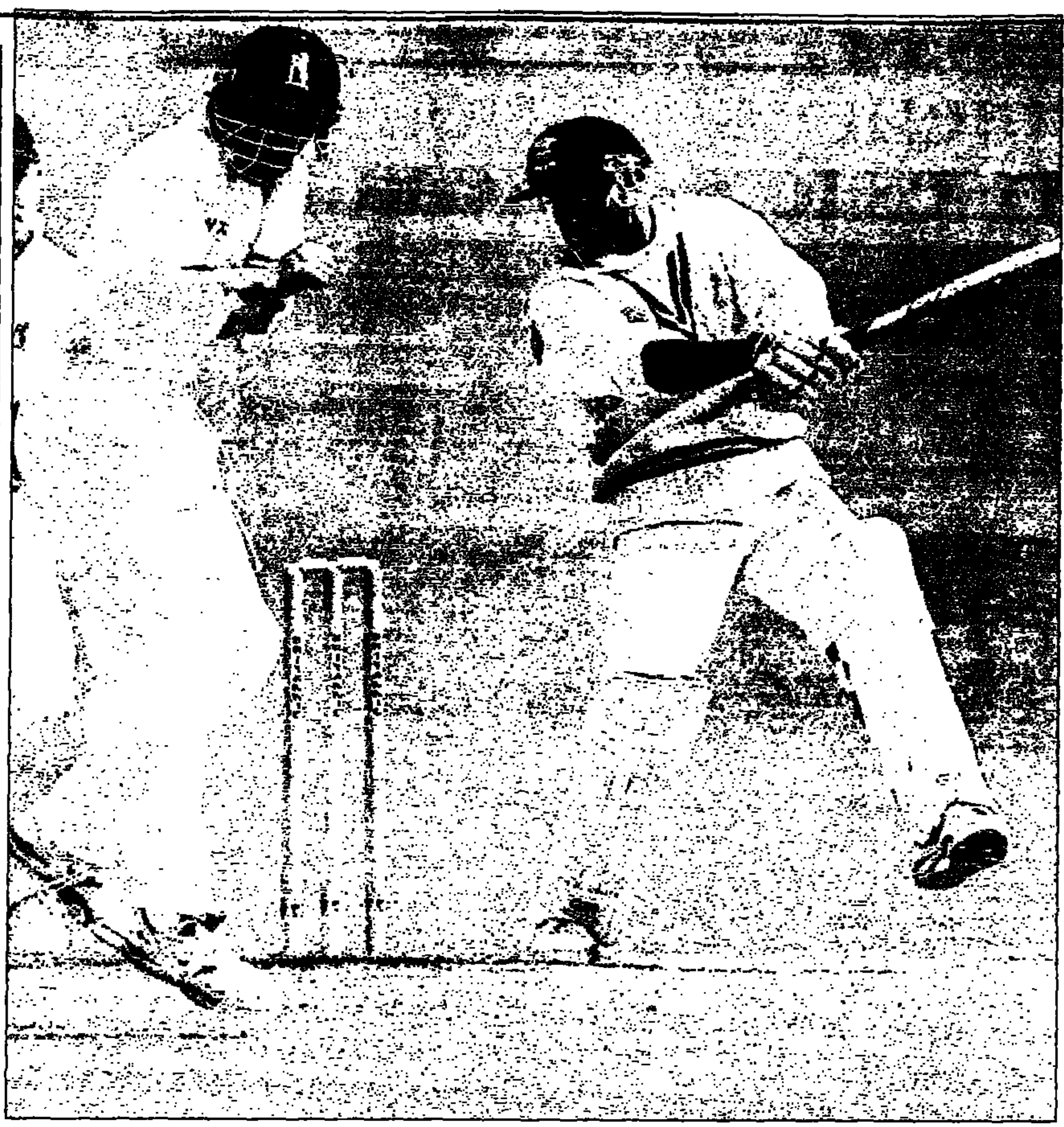
The Surrey bowlers, unaccustomed to surfaces like this, were probably bowling too full a length and Titchard was able to get on to the front foot on his way to 54 before he went too far across and lost his leg stump to Benjamin.

Gallian, meanwhile, was riding the blows in that unflappable way of his and Speak had helped him to put on another 80 when he took one knock too many from Benjamin and, soon afterwards, played the shot of someone who has suffered enough, edging to second slip.

Fairbrother avoided a pair but he had nothing more to offer before Martin Bicknell flattened his leg stump and, when Benjamin uprooted Speak's middle stump, it looked as though Surrey's victory was a matter of time.

Lloyd had other ideas. He knows only one way to play and his quickfire 46 galvanised Watkinson and Austin into an onslaught that had the Lancashire glee club in full voice for the first time in three days. Watkinson thrashed 53 off 62 balls with two sixes and seven fours and sparked such a response from Austin that he had three sixes in his 40 from 44 balls.

Suddenly, however, the storm blew itself out as abruptly as it had begun. Watkinson was caught behind off Julian, Austin was stumped off Pearson and Julian cleaned up the tail to see Surrey through the avalanche of runs to the summit.



Campbell, Durham's top scorer, launches into a fierce square cut which has the close fieldsman covering up

Cox revives sinking Durham

By Jack Bailey

EDGBASTON; (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets remaining, lead Durham by 114 runs

WARWICKSHIRE held on to the advantage gleaned by their tailenders on Thursday by gaining a lead on the first innings of 51 runs and confidently extending it through Moles and Powell. But there is still hope for Durham who showed a keen fighting spirit, even if they did not always look brilliantly equipped for the task of seriously wounding the Warwickshire bear.

Indeed, had it not been for a brave and dashing innings by their bowling hero, David Cox, they would have been hard pressed to cause even mild irritation. Cox came in with Durham at 197 for six, still 109 runs adrift following a collapse in which four wickets tumbled for 43 runs after resolute batting by Campbell and Bainbridge had put them in command.

In the next 44 minutes, Cox made 45 runs while his willing but static partner, Ligertwood, garnered a single. Squirting, squeezing and occasionally sallying forth to drive, Cox gave the small section of Durham supporters cause to cheer and drove the Warwickshire attack, fast and slow alike, almost round the bend.

Warwickshire are grimly aware of their slipping status and at no time more than now, as Cox, for whom cricket must seem an easy game at present, hit a six and five fours and by his antics caused Warwickshire to give away four overthrows to add to the risky single he was in the middle of taking.

Coming after a grim period for Durham when much that had been promised was squandered, Cox's innings did much to lighten the gloom. They had for too long been pegged down by the off spin of Neil Smith and Giles's left-arm slows.

Smith came on for the 22nd over at the City End from which Cox had spun out Warwickshire the previous day, and for 32 consecutive overs he wheeled away, removing Hutton after a fine opening partnership of 72 and prising out the obdurate but enterprising Campbell.

Smith's was a sturdy effort on a helpful pitch and later he helped Munton administer the *coup de grâce*. Yet Campbell had coasted along, serenely untroubled, for nearly 2½ hours for his 64 — his seventh championship score of more than 50 — and later Bainbridge showed that where there is experience, there is still life. He passed his half-century in less than an hour-and-a-half, using his feet well to counter the spin.

It was an object lesson, unheeded by Daley, Weston and Roseberry as Durham faltered and Smith went on to take five for 71 from 41 overs while Munton and Giles did the rest.

A clue to Roseberry's disappointing form since he joined Durham — this season he had made 351 runs at an average of 19.5 before yesterday's innings of 18 — may lie in the direction of his gaze when the bowler is preparing to bowl, and possibly thereafter. Nobody within a 30 degree arc of the pitch dare stir or stand, no matter how high above the scene of the ground they are. Perhaps he should take a leaf out of Cox's book. Looking for distractions helps nobody, least of all the tempo of the game or the goodwill of patient and innocent spectators.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Challenge match cloaks uncertainty

NEATH and Pontypridd will open the first season of professional club rugby in Wales when they meet at Cardiff *on September 1 (David Hands writes). This challenge match* between the league champions and cup-winners is the Welsh Rugby Union's (WRU) response to the withdrawal by English clubs from the proposed Anglo-Welsh head-to-head games that same weekend. Continued differences between England and the other three home unions, as Sir Tasker Watkins, the WRU president, acknowledged yesterday, plague the new season.

Uncertainty surrounds the Heineken Cup and the inaugural Anglo-Welsh League, while the WRU has yet to find a sponsor for its domestic league. Therefore, Welsh clubs have little or no idea what money will be available. Wisely, Neath and Pontypridd have contracted their players on the basis of what they know they will have, rather than their expectations from television and commercial interests.

Escape for Sampras

TENNIS: *Pete Sampras, the No 1 seed, and the Olympic* gold medal-winner, Andre Agassi, struggled into the *quarter-finals of the ATP Tour Championship in Mason,* Ohio, where the Wimbledon champion, Richard Krajicek, *went out at the same stage. Sampras saved a match point in* the third set before overcoming Mark Woodforde, of *Australia, 6-7, 7-5, 7-6. Agassi lost the first set tie-break* against Alex O'Brien, a fellow American, who had to qualify, before winning the next two by 6-3, 6-0. Krajicek had problems throughout the match with his first serve — which proved such an effective weapon at Wimbledon — and was beaten 7-6, 6-2 by Thomas Enqvist, of Sweden.

Robinson returns

BOXING: Steve Robinson, the former World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, will return to the ring next month for the first time since he lost the title to Naseem Hamed last September. Robinson will share top billing with Neil Swain, the Commonwealth super-bantamweight champion, who meets Richie Wenton on September 18 in Cardiff. Robinson's opponent is to be announced.

French lesson

GOLF: Marine Monnet, 18, a high school pupil from Paris, became the second successive French winner of the British Girls' Open amateur golf championship at Formby yesterday. In the first all-French final in the event, Monnet, the French strokeplay champion who plays off a handicap of one, gave a fine display to beat Caroline Laurens by 4 and 3. Monnet made only one mistake during the match, at the 7th when she lost a ball.

Snow flurry

REAL TENNIS: Julian Snow, the Great Britain No 1, reached the final of the Australian Open championship after a hard-fought victory over his compatriot, Mike Gooding, the Hatfield professional. Snow started strongly, and although Gooding snatched the third set 6-4 with some forceful hitting, Snow raised the game, dropping only one more game. He meets the world champion, Robert Fahey, who beat Frank Filippelli, of Melbourne, in straight sets.

Whitaker clears way

EQUESTRIANISM Great Britain and Ireland finished first and second, and the rest nowhere, in the Nations Cup at the Dublin International Horse Show yesterday . Both teams jumped a total of six clear rounds. Britain's victory was clinched by John Whitaker on Granusch, the last to go in the event. A clear round was necessary and Whitaker, as is his way, met the challenge not with caution but with dash to produce a brilliant clear well within the time.

Glamorgan struggling after Smith's marathon

By Ivo Tennant

SWANSEA (second day of four): Glamorgan, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 403 runs behind Leicestershire

A SLENDER lead of the county championship table is not causing Leicestershire to repine. Two years ago they were fretting over their cricket in the last few weeks of the season and it suffered accordingly. Yesterday their ebullience was exemplified by Ben Smith, who made a career-best score of 190, and by a keenness in the field that resulted in their bowlers taking three quick wickets.

Leicestershire are a side imbued with self-confidence. It was always evident in their fielding, Simmons taking as fine a slip catch as could be seen when he dived to hold Evans low and left-handed, and when Wells took a sharp chance at gully to remove James. When Morris was run out, beaten in his attempt to gain a third run from a drive to long-off, Glamorgan were having to concern themselves with saving the follow-on. Maynard also went cheaply, bowled by Simmons.

Leicestershire might well have declared once they had reached 500 or, more pertinently, Smith had achieved his career-best score. Taking the weather into account is so often a factor in these parts. Anyway, the championship leaders are of the opinion that they can bowl out Glamorgan twice on a pitch increasingly taking spin.

So Smith batted on and on. For 7½ half hours he was at the crease. Like Wells, he delights in playing long innings. Only a few weeks ago Smith made an unbeaten 174 against Kent, hitherto the highest score of his six-year career.

Thus to say that he is still feeling his way in the game is to sound faintly patronising. Yet as with Maddy, who took six hours to reach his maiden century against Northamptonshire earlier in the week, he has a reputation to build. Smith's innings included 23 fours, was made with compact assurance and was all the better for having Simmons to encourage him from the other end.

These two put on 200 off 54 overs before Simmons was athletically caught by Maynard at mid-wicket off Croft, who, partly because of the absence of Kendrick, who has split his left hand, was given 52 overs. When he trudged off, hair tousled from the breeze that propelled the myriad wind-surfers around the bay, he was limping as well and removed his boots as quickly as he could. He deserved his three wickets.

Cottey, who might best be described as an occasional off spinner, gained the best figures of his career, four for 49. That he hardly turned the ball was of little account, for Leicestershire were looking to make quick runs at this stage of the day. Containing, and eventually frustrating, Nixon, Parsons and Brimson, was his task. Glamorgan's catching was rather more impressive than their batting.

Wary Speight helps to keep Sussex afloat

By Rupert Cox

HOVE (second day of four): Sussex, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 108 runs behind Derbyshire

AFTER their curious decision to employ two, timid nightwatchmen on Thursday evening, Sussex will be grateful that Martin Speight ensured a safe passage beyond their initial objective, the follow-on target of 171. Moreover, having missed most of last season recovering from a viral infection, Speight's form has been the subject of much concern in these parts. But, forced to play with uaccustomed caution, he responded with a mature 92 from 188 balls with 12 fours and a six, in a little over four hours batting.

Coastal rain forced play to be delayed until 12.10pm, and there were fears that a relatively docile surface would be spruced up. But after a nervy start, Keith Newell, in partnership with Speight, allayed Sussex's apprehension during a solid stand of 89 in 27 overs.

Phillip DeFreitas carried the main threat, bowling 19 overs unchanged, down the hill, regularly exploiting the overcast conditions to beat the bat; one for 74 was an unjust return for his travails. But with showers continuing to drift in from the sea and ultimately accounting for 57 overs, play was constantly threatened with interruption.

After a protracted lunch interval, because of the rain, Devon Malcolm was clubbed disrespectfully from the attack after conceding 24 from his two overs, as Speight rushed to only his second championship half-century of the season, from 90 balls with six fours.

Newell, the maker of a century here against the West Indies last year, had phlegmatically acquired 30 when attempting an expansive clip through mid-wicket, he could only donate a wicket to Colin Wells, the former Sussex all-rounder.

Danny Law, 21, the newly capped all-rounder, spent 23 balls moving off the mark, and survived a confident stumping appeal from the impressive Karl Krikken. He fell in similar fashion to Newell, eyeing the short pavilion-side boundary, and perishing leg-before to Wells, who thus earned reward for a controlled spell.

But with Speight's almost tangible determination to grasp his first century since early May 1994, Sussex's ambition in this match has grown with his innings — if the elements will permit.

Unsung Connor gets share of limelight

By Geoffrey Wheeler

CARDIGAN CONNOR, a willing foil to Hampshire's overseas bowlers during his 12 years with the club, had a well-merited day of glory by returning the best figures of the season at Southampton yesterday, taking nine for 38 as Gloucestershire were dismissed for 164.

Connor, three for 21 when Gloucestershire resumed at 138 for four, captured the last six wickets between the showers in only seven overs. Dominic Hewson, who needed 13 for a century on his championship debut being caught on the long-leg boundary without adding to his score.

Gloucestershire batsmen must have a special appeal for Connor whose previous best figures, seven for 31, came against the same opponents at Portsmouth seven years ago. "There was no magic formula," Connor, 35, said. "I just concentrated on length and line and there was no real assistance from the pitch."

Hampshire, with an unexpected first-innings lead of 22, started their second innings unconvincingly with their captain, John Stephenson, bagging a pair but a third-wicket stand of 112 between Kevan James and Robin Smith, who made 77, put them in control. With seven wickets in hand, they led by 167.

Middlesex batted with a consistency that has been largely absent from their cricket this season while scoring 407 for nine at Trent Bridge, which gave them a lead of 150 over Nottinghamshire.

The acting captain, Mark Ramprakash, led by example, hitting 11 fours in his 71 before he was brilliantly run out by his counterpart, Paul Johnson. The other outstanding feature of the day was a composed half-century from Owais Shah, 17, on his championship debut.

Another batsman new to captaincy, Peter Bowler, of Somerset, made 88 at Taunton but could not prevent his side from following on against Essex. After reaching 195 for three, Somerset were all out for 246 in reply to 465, Peter Such taking six for 63, his best figures of the season.

At Worcester, 26 wickets fell on the opening day of the match against South Africa A. Gary Gilder taking eight for 22 for the touring side as the county were dismissed for 77.

Fiery McCague puts Kent in command

By Simon Wilde

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Northamptonshire, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, need 92 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Kent

SUPERB fast bowling from Martin McCague, who took five wickets for 21 runs, put Kent in complete control of this match yesterday. He was instrumental in Northamptonshire being dismissed in their first innings for a paltry 133 and following on 183 in arrears, his return being his best of the season and taking his tally of wickets to 50.

Northamptonshire were all out on the stroke of tea and quickly lost three more wickets in the final session. All fell to Wren, who trapped Fordham, Northamptonshire's top scorer first time round with 53, in his first over and Sales and Capel, both driving loosely to mid-off, in his fifth.

McCague was virtually unplayable. He made the first breach with a snorter dug in short to Montgomerie, who looped the ball to third slip in fending it off his face, and four balls later produced a yorker to shatter the stumps of Sales.

Sales's promotion to No 3 — which, despite his debut double-century in his previous match, was unexpected — thus appeared premature, although second time around he showed his class in striking some crisp boundaries in reaching 25.

McCague returned in the afternoon to exploit a pitch freshened by an hour under the covers. He took three more wickets as Northamptonshire lost their last seven for 41 in 15 overs. He unleashed a ferocious ball to have Fordham — who was possibly unsettled by a shooter earlier in the over — caught at slip and Snape was also helpless in being caught at the wicket.

Ripley then fell to him in the same manner — less forgivably perhaps, but by then Northamptonshire's disenchantment with their home square and the unequal struggle was entrenched.

Their only stand of substance was one of 69 between Fordham, who scored his first championship fifty for three months, and Curran, who continued his rich form by thumping 45 from 46 balls with ten fours.

McCague was supported by Patel, who took three wickets, and fielders whose catching — unlike that of their opponents — was faultless. Kent's one piece of luck was to have Penberthy caught off his boot.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match

11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum

HEADINGLEY: England v Pakistan

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Leicestershire
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Gloucestershire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Kent
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Middlesex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Essex
HOVE: Sussex v Derbyshire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Durham

Tour match

11.0, second day of four

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v South Africa A

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division

Aberdeen v Celtic
Dundee Utd v Motherwell
Hibernian v Kilmarnock
Rangers v Raith

Scottish League Challenge Cup
First round

Albion v St Johnstone
Alloa v Clyde
Arbroath v Queen of South
Berwick v Stranraer
Brechin v Stirling
Clydebank v East Stirling
Cowdenbeath v Falkirk
Forfar v Greenock Morton
Livingston v Caledonian Thistle
Montrose v Dumbarton
Partick v Queen's Park
Ross County v Ayr

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Blackpool v Darlington; Bradford v Wolverhampton; Brighton v Luton; Carlisle v Bolton; Charlton v Tottenham; Farnborough v Southampton; Guiseley v Halifax; Halesowen v Cardiff; Hitchin v Tottenham XI; Ilkeston v Birmingham; Kettering v Norwich; Kidderminster v Crewe, Macclesfield v Man United XI (2.0); Northampton v Peterborough; Northwich v Doncaster; Portsmouth v Bristol City; Queens Park Rangers v Wimbledon; Scunthorpe v Huddersfield; *Shelbourne v Nottingham Forest (7.45)*; Shrewsbury v Stoke, UCD v Bangor City (at Belfield Park), Waterford v Oldham (7.30); *Wealdstone v Wimbledon XI (at Edgware* Town FC); Wigan v Barnsley; Accrington Stanley v Bury; Dover v Gillingham; *Bishop's Stortford v Leyton Orient XI; Inter* Cable-Tel v Everton XI.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: First round: Ards v Chimney Corner; Ballinamallard v Portadown; Ballyclare v Armagh; Ballymoney v Newry; Banbridge v Distillery; *Coleraine v Limavady; Crusaders* v Brantwood, Dungannon Swifts v Ballymena; Glenavon v Dundela; Institute v *Carrick, Larne v H and W Welders; Linfield v* Tobermore; Loughgall v Cliftonville; Moyola Park v Glentoran; Omagh v Cookstown.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League

Paris Saint-Germain v St Helens (7.0)
Warrington v Castleford Tigers (6.0)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championship (at Leamington Spa).

EQUESTRIANISM: Royal Dublin horse *show (at Ballsbridge)*

GOLF: McDonald's WPGA championship *(at Gleneagles); Irish amateur championship* (at Royal County Down).

ROWING: World championships (at Strathclyde).

SAILING: *Skandia Life Cowes week.*

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Coventry v Sheffield (7.30); Eastbourne v Exeter (7.30) Conference League: Linlithgow v Ryde (IoW) (2.30); Swindon v Peterborough (7.30).

Tomorrow

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match

11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum

HEADINGLEY: England v Pakistan

AXA Equity & Law League

2.0, 40 overs

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Leicestershire
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v *Gloucestershire*
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Surrey
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v *Kent*
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Middlesex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Essex
HOVE: Sussex v Derbyshire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Durham

Tour match

11.0, third day of four

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v South Africa A

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP *(first day of two)*: Dunstable: Bedfordshire v Cumbria. Hertford: Hertfordshire v Lincolnshire. Cowley: Oxfordshire v Herefordshire. Penarth: Wales v Dorset. Marlborough CC: *Wiltshire v Berkshire*

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Charity Shield

Manchester Utd v Newcastle Utd (at Wembley)

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: *Drogheda v* Southend (4.30): Middlesbrough v Internazionale, Newcastle Town v Stoke (1.0). *Waterford v Oldham (7.30)*

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Stones Super League

Oldham Bears v London Broncos
Sheffield Eagles v Halifax (5.30)
Workington v Bradford Bulls

First division

Batley Bulldogs v Hull (5.30)
Huddersfield Giants v Dewsbury (6.30)
Salford Reds v Keighley Cougars
Wakefield v Whitehaven (3.30)
Widnes v Rochdale

Second division

Bramley v Barrow (5.0)
Chorley Magpies v York (6.0)
Doncaster Dragons v Leigh Centurions
Hull Kingston Rovers v Carlisle (6.30)
Hunslet Hawks v South Wales (3.30)
Swinton Lions v Prescot Panthers (6.30)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Performance Games (Crystal Palace)

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championship (at Leamington Spa)

EQUESTRIANISM: Royal Dublin horse show (at Ballsbridge)

GOLF: McDonald's WPGA championship (at Gleneagles); Irish amateur championship (at Royal County Down)

MOTOR SPORT: Auto Trader/RAC touring car championship (at Oulton Park); Formula *Three championship (at Snetterton).*

ROWING: World championships (at Strathclyde).

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Scottish Monarchs v Hull (6.30). Conference League: *Buxton v Ryde (IoW)* (3.0); Mildenhall v Berwick (3.30).

GOLF MONTGOMERIE MISSES ANOTHER MAJOR CUT WITH SECOND-ROUND 78 AT VALHALLA

Woosnam rises to early challenge

From John Hopkins
Golf Correspondent
in Louisville, Kentucky

Woosnam approaches the 17th green during his second-round 72 in the US PGA at Valhalla yesterday. Photograph: David Cannon

THEY flew out to the United States aboard the same plane, practised together at the Valhalla course here, but, after two rounds in the US PGA Championship, Ian Woosnam and Colin Montgomerie went their separate ways. The Welshman was four under par and the Scot five over.

The second day had begun soon after the sun rose over the Ohio river. The unfinished business of the first round demanded their presence at the golf club by 7.30am. Woosnam had four holes to complete, Montgomerie five.

As they stepped out of their hotels, they would have noted the coolness in the air. A sense of freshness had replaced the stultifying heat of the previous days.

By 9am, the first rounds were finished. Woosnam hitting a series of fine iron shots that brought no reward and bogeying the last for a 68, four under par, Montgomerie parring each hole for a 71. There was no time for the hearty breakfast they probably felt *they deserved after starting so early, hardly time, in fact, for a* glass of orange juice. Woosnam completed his round *20 hours after he had started it.*

The tournament organisers expected those completing their first rounds to adhere as closely as they could to the second-round starting times. "I'm on the tee in ten minutes," Woosnam said to Andrew Hampel, his manager, as he ran from the scorer's caravan. "See you on the putting green straightaway, Al," Montgomerie said to Alastair McLean, his caddie.

Woosnam's PGA record has been poor. Though he finished sixth in 1989 and ninth two years ago, he took 86 in the first round at Palm Beach Gardens in 1987 and missed the cut in 1992 and last year.

He and the heat do not go well together. He looks ill at ease — as does Montgomerie, for that matter, who still sweats considerably despite losing nearly three stone this year — a baseball hat rammed down on his head so that it bent his ears out.

Three bogeys spoilt Woosnam's front nine in his second round. He drove into the left rough on the 6th and from there missed the green, then drove into the left rough again on the long 7th and had the bad luck of seeing his ball roll to the foot of a shoulder in the 8th green. Getting up that shoulder and stopping the ball near the hole proved too difficult and three putts resulted.

Woosnam, though, was making light of the trouble with his sinuses that had affected him in Scandinavia last week and, perhaps spurred by the indignity of seeing a scoreboard by the 9th green describing him as "Woosman", he rammed in his approach to two feet and holed the putt. Two more birdies followed and Woosnam, now four under par, was closing on the leaders.

This was more than could be said of Montgomerie. He had not been able to sink a putt on his outward half and, when Montgomerie cannot capitalise on his accurate striking from tee to green, he is in trouble. Two under par after birdying the second hole, he had fallen back to level par by the turn and one over when a limp and inaccurate shot with a pitching iron to the 12th plopped into a bunker.

Valhalla is one of the prettiest golf courses to have staged a major championship in the United States for years. Wherever you look, the view is of thousands of trees, which suggests that, in the autumn, the colours must be magnificent. There is not a house in sight. It was puzzling, then, that, on a course that looked so British, in weather that was so balmy, Montgomerie's challenge in the event in which he finished runner-up last year came to such tame end.

He ran up a six on the par-four 15th and seemed unable to take any encouragement from the presence in his gallery of Bill Ferguson, his coach, Eimear, his wife, nor from the form of Fuzzy Zoeller, who played seven holes from the turn in 23 strokes. The Scot's form is worrying.

He comfortably missed the cut in the Open, had an unMontgomerie-like round of 76 in the only event he has played in since and now a 78 in his second round here. Missing the cut in successive majors is not what one expects of the world's second-ranked player.

EARLY SECOND-ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 138: V Singh (Fiji) 69, 69, K Perry 66, 72. 140: G Norman (Aus) 68, 72; I Woosnam (GB) 68, 72. F Nobilo (NZ) 69, 71 142: F Couples 74, 68. 143: D Duval 74, 69; F Zoeller 76, 67 144: M Calcavecchia 70, 74; D Weibring 71, 73; S Higashi (Japan) 72, 72. 145: M Bradley 73, 72, M Dawson 76, 69; C Pavin 71, 74, H Clark (GB) 73, 72, P Stankowski 70, 75. 146: J Roth 69, 77; G Bowman 72, 74; D Love 73, 73 147: C Tucker 71, 76; B Bryant 74, 73 148: J McGovern 71, 77 149: T Tryba 78, 71 149: C Montgomerie (GB) 71, 78 151: K Triplett 72, 79 152: W Chapman 77, 75; M Taylor 79, 73 156: J Bermel 79, 75

COMPLETE FIRST-ROUND SCORES

United States unless stated

66: K Perry. 67: S Elkington (Aus), P Mickelson 68: M Brooks, N Price (Zim), R Cochran, J Edwards, G Norman (Aus), I Woosnam (GB), L Janzen. 69: D Edwards, J Cook, N Faldo (GB), S McCarron, T Tolles, V Singh (Fiji), J Roth, F Nobilo (NZ), T Watson, E Aubrey. 70: P Azinger, W Wood, P Walton (Ire), J Furyk, B Watts, M Calcavecchia, P Stankowski, W Austin. 71: P Burke, D Frost (SA), A Cejka (Ger), T Herron, T Lehman, R Mediate, M O'Meara, S Torrance (GB), P Jacobsen, M Brisky, B Boyd, L Mize, C Tucker, C Montgomerie (GB), J McGovern, D A Weibring, C Pavin, P Goydos, N Lancaster, M A Jimenez (Sp), B Mayfair, J Leonard, P Blackmar. 72: G Morgan, N Henke, J Haas, J Sluman, B Faxon, J Daly, C Parry (Aus), S Hoch, S Lowery, G Bowman, K Triplett, J Huston, S Higashi (Japan), C Rocca (It), L Roberts, B Estes, T Purtzer, G Day, J Adams 73: S Ingraham, L Rinker, C Strange, D Waldorf, J Sindelar, B Langer (Ger), S Stricker, L Nelson, J Parnevik (Swe), H Sutton, D Martin, M Bradley, H Clark (GB), D Love, P Stewart, P-U Johansson (Swe), T Nakajima (Japan), S Simpson, M James (GB), J Maggert, F Funk, J Gallagher Jr, M Wiebe 74: P Arthur, W Grady (Aus), M Reid, B Crenshaw, J Reeves, D Duval, B Bryant, F Couples, E Els (SA), B McCallister, J Morse, J D Blake, J Wilson, B Chamblee, E Terasa. 75: C Anderson, B Lohr, B Andrade, D Ogrin, N Ozaki (Japan), S Jones, M Campbell (NZ) R Tway, M McNulty (Zim), M McCumber, M Ozaki (Japan), L Wadkins, L Clements, K Schall 76: G Waite (NZ), P Senior (Aus), R Allenby (Aus), B Israelson, M Dawson, F Zoeller, T Kite, D Forsman, M Burke 77: S Schneiter, J Nicklaus, W Chapman, C Stadler. 78: M Hulbert, G Kraft, J Deforest, E Booker, T Tryba, B Ford, R Philo. 79: H Green, M Taylor. 80: L Nielsen, R Ware 81: D Bateman, J Bermel 82: M Caporale, J Nelson Withdrew: J Mahaffey.

Lane charges back into contention

By Our Sports Staff

BARRY LANE, who pulled out of the US PGA Championship to play in the Hohe Brucke Austrian Open in Litschau, yesterday returned a six-under-par 66 for a two-round aggregate of 135, to finish four shots behind Juan Piñero, of Spain, who leads at 13-under-par on 131.

"I dropped out of the US PGA because I wasn't playing well enough," the Englishman said. "Here in the Austrian Open, I have been far more relaxed. I played two good rounds, and I am back in contention.

"Everything has gone according to plan and this is why I did not play in the US PGA. I wanted to play well here, work on my new swing and hit the ball nicely. 'Well, today, I missed only one green and whatever happens tomorrow, it has given me confidence."

Lane won the Five Tours World Championships in Arizona eight months ago, but has not won on the European Tour since taking the Turespana Baleares Open more than two years ago.

Pinero leads by two shots from Massimo Scarpa, of Italy, and David Higgins, of Ireland.

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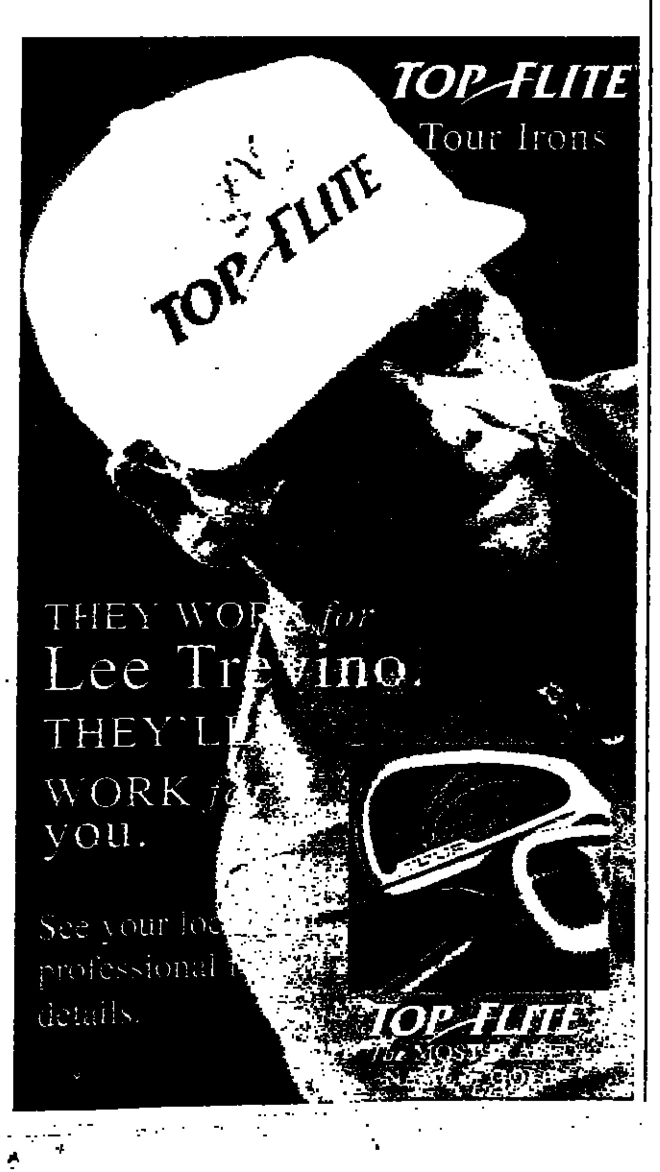


Bennett delights the early birds

By Patricia Davies

THE unlikely figure of Sarah Bennett, who had missed as many cuts as she had made this season, set the tone for the second round of the McDonald's WPGA Championship at Gleneagles yesterday.

Bennett, an Essex girl from Colchester, is no relation to Gordon but the unusual, and unexpected, nature of her round evoked his name and similar exposulations continued throughout a calm day that invited low scoring on a King's course that was at its most benign.

In her days as an amateur, Bennett once won six balls for keeping a six off her card and she did even better yesterday, with nothing worse than a four in a flawless 67, five under par. It included four birdie fours and a three at the tricky 13th, the hole known as Braid's Brawest after James Braid, the course designer. On a green that undulates as much as any on this hilly terrain, Bennett holed a 10ft putt that was fast, downhill and moved from left to right. It was worth getting up early for. Bennett was the first player out and her total of 142, two under par, left her only five shots behind the leading trio of Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, Tina Fischer and Helen Wadsworth.

They were on 137, a stroke ahead of Laura Navarro, a member of the Spanish golfing family from El Saler, and two ahead of Mhairi McKay, the Curtis Cup player from Turnberry, and Charlotta Sorenstam, younger, talented sister of Annika.

Navarro's round of 66 was remarkable for three eagles, two threes at the 6th and 18th — she hit a five-iron to six feet there - and a two at the 14th, a deliciously tempting par four of 255 yards, where she holed a putt of nine feet for her two. "It was a fantastic round, the best I've ever had," she saidafter coming home in 30, five under par.

Her compatriot, Esther Valera, in her first year on the American Express Tour, went one better, holing her drive at the same hole for an albatross one. She still finished with an 81 but her effort did not go unrewarded: McDonald's presented her with £500 and the PGA produced a bottle of champagne.

An albatross is a rare enough bird but there was another one, at the 18th, where Sara Forster, from Lullingstone Park in Kent, holed her second shot, with a seven-iron. It was more than compensation for a double bogey six at the 17th for it ensured that she made the cut with a total of 146, four over par.

However, McKay's was probably the performance of the day, confirming the 21-year old's ability. She has one more year to complete at Stanford, in California, where Tiger Woods is a fellow student and constantly amazes her with his skill on the practice ground, but has not yet decided whether she will turn professional. Seven birdies in a 66 that matched the best round of the day might help make up her mind.

McKay admitted to being very nervous on Thursday, especially when she was warming up on the range. "I was so excited I found it hard to get my rhythm," she said but once on the course she quickly settled down and yesterday, the nerves were gone. She also had the help of Peter, her father, who caddied for her and put his knowledge of the course to good use. "He plays here quite a lot," McKay said, "and was able to tell me the lines, especially for the chips." At the last, where she was through the back in two, she gave the perfect demonstration, chipping to three inches for a final birdie.

DETAILS

LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (GB and Ire unless stated): 137: M-L de Lorenzi (Fr) 70, 67; T Fischer (Ger) 68, 69; H Wadsworth 69, 68 138: L Navarro (Sp) 72, 66. 139: * M McKay 73, 66, C Sorenstam (Swe) 70, 69 140: J Morley 71, 69; F Dassu (It) 74, 66; C Dibnah (Aus) 73, 67, K Pearce (Aus) 70, 70 141: W Dicks 73, 68, L Lambert (Aus) 70, 71. 142: S Bennett 75, 67; M Hjorth (Swe) 73, 69, L Hackney 72, 70; T Johnson 72, 70; C Matthew 68, 74 143: J Mills (Aus) 71, 72, R Hetherington (Aus) 73, 70; X Wunsch (Sp) 76, 67, C Peek (US) 71, 72, M Arruti (Sp) 71, 72 144: S Mendiburu (Fr) 71, 73; P Wright 75, 69; T Loveys 76, 68, A Gottmo (Swe) 73, 71; L Maritz (SA) 74, 70; S Strudwick 74, 70; D Reid 74, 70. Other score: 147: L Davies 73, 74

* denotes amateur

BOWLS

England fail to meet their statistical target

By Gordon Allan

ENGLAND failed to qualify for the gold medal play-off in the women's world triples championship at Leamington Spa yesterday. In the mathematical complexities of the situation at the top of the table, they had to score at least twice as many shots as their opponents, Scotland, to go through, but won only 16-15.

The final today is between South Africa, who beat Malaysia 33-5, and Australia, who overcame Western Samoa 19-11.

The England triple, Wendy Line, Jean Baker and Mary Price, will play Ann Sutherland, Judith Wason and Betty Morgan, of Wales, for the bronze medal. They seemed to have the upper hand against the Scots, leading Margaret Letham, Betty Forsyth and Sarah Gourlay 16-9 with three ends left, but the Scots pegged them down with a scoring sequence of 4,1,1.

In the early stages, Scotland led 5-2 before England picked up two counts of three. Scotland got back to 10-9 but England won five ends in a row for a seven-shot advantage, setting up a fraught finish. Scotland, who were the defending champions, finished third in the championship.

Phillis Nolan and Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, who are attempting to win the pairs for an unprecedented third consecutive time, made sure of their place in today's final with a 26-12 victory over Zimbabwe. Their opponents will be Jean Jones and Sheila Syvret, of Jersey, who beat New Zealand 24-20 in a tense finish to qualify.

ROWING: MEDAL PROSPECTS IMPROVE AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

British crews ready for final assault

By Mike Rosewell
Rowing Correspondent

BRITAIN will feature in 13 of the 24 championship finals at the world rowing championships this weekend in Strathclyde. Four more boats successfully moved through their semi-finals yesterday, so that six crews will be in the junior finals today and seven more will be in the seniors' battles for medals tomorrow.

None of yesterday's four final qualifiers managed a first place in their semi, although there was a feeling that the men's junior coxless four could have achieved this when they cruised in behind Slovenia and Italy. They were clearly keeping their powder dry, although a third place means they will have to contest the final in an outside lane. Martin Orviss, the coach, was cagey about their medal prospects, afterwards "There is not one outstanding crew, but there are plenty to be reckoned with," he said. Slovenia, Italy and Australia, the defending champions, clearly come into this reckoning.

Lennie Robertson, the Nottingham County coach, who is in charge of the lightweight eight's fortunes, did not conceal his joy when the men's coxed four, all Nottingham members, reached their final with a third place.

Another happy coach was Maurice Hayes, of London University. Hayes, in the unusual position of being coach to two crews at one championships, saw his men's lightweight quad, stroked by veteran Stuart Forbes, qualify with a third place in by far the fastest semi-final. It would earn a place in the history books if both his men's coxed pair and the quad climb the medal rostrum on Sunday.

Sue Appelboom, Britain's woman lightweight sculler, has lacked a little of her usual combative edge despite her progress this week. She appeared somewhat the same yesterday, sitting, apparently content, in fourth place, rating 32 strokes per minute, until 17.50 metres. Happily, she then woke up, put the rate to 35 and produced the turn of speed she shows Tony James, her coach, in training. She overtook Poland's Mokronowska, and closed on the Denmarkand Holland competitors. Safely in the final, she now has everything to go for since her semi-final was much the faster of the two.

A 1½ hour pep talk to the British juniors by Matthew Pinsent on Thursday evening just failed [illegible] dream of Mark Banks, the chief junior coach. That dream being the never-achieved aim of having both junior men and women in rowing and sculling finals. The men just failed at the latter while the junior men's quad and the junior double scull both narrowly missed the cut in their semis.

For Tim Kingswell and James Di-Luzio in the double, the disappointment was heightened by their time, which was good enough to have qualified in the other two semis.

☐ Matthew Pinsent, who featured in a post-race press conference yesterday, now says he is 90 per cent certain to carry on with competitive rowing. However, the proviso for this is that he must have "guaranteed finance for the next four years", considering that a pair would cost £75,000 per annum, and a four twice

Results 37

Bus proves best catch of day in uphill struggle

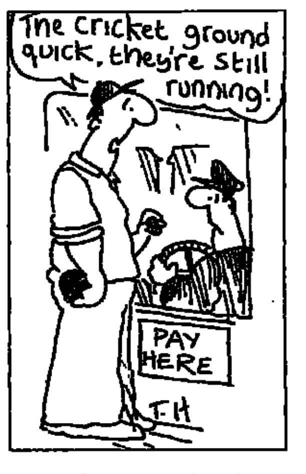
SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

AS I return from Atlanta — an unpleasant place with rather too many unpleasant people and too few buses, where, to Atlanta's undeserved good fortune a series of rather wonderful sporting events took place recently — I open my post and brace myself for a blast of old England. Ken Evans writes to me with a story from the *North Devon Journal*, and at once, the Atlantan cares slough away.

Ilfracombe Rugby Club were playing cricket against Woolacombe in that lumpy county a few weeks back. A powerfully struck four bounced over the surrounding hedge and escaped from the ground. Paul Crabb set off in pursuit, but the ball, once it had left Brimlands playing field, set off down the hill towards Hele village. Crabb finally caught up with the ball a quarter-of-a-mile from the ground.

Turning to make his weary way back, he saw a bus and had the self-possession to flag it down. "I don't think there's anything in the *rule-book* about it," he said. As he cruised back up the hill, he was asked to pay a fare of 46p, but found that he had but 28p in his flannels. The driver, however, decided that Crabb's sense of style added lustre to the day, and let him off. Ilfracombe went on to win the match: Crabb, who had clearly peaked too early, contributed a King Duck to the total. Good job the match did not take place in Atlanta: he'd still be waiting by the road with his cricket ball.


The cricket ground quick, they're still running!
PAY HERE
TH

Curtain down

The Poacher's Arms Irregulars Cricket Club, of Canada, named for the mighty Tewin Irregulars, write to tell me that they have played another fixture, their first for two years. Playing against the Shakespeare Festival Theatre Players, of Ontario — at Stratford, Ontario (where else?) — the Irregulars made 126 for the loss of 13 wickets, to which the Shakespeareans responded with but 57 all out.

Morris minor

Further news of far-flung Englishmen: I hear that a chap called Jeremy Morris, of Tonbridge School third XV and Leeds University third XV, has won his first international rugby cap — for Mexico. He accompanied the Mexico squad on their first overseas tour to Colombia as reserve scrum-half, and got on as replacement with five minutes left in the game. The score was 10-10; my informant, you will be unsurprised to learn, was Peter Morris, father of the great man.

Pot and kettles

The post-Olympic respite gives me at last the time to catch up with news of Diego. The good people of Amsterdam have been seeing rather a lot of Diego lately. Practically all of him, in fact, though in instalments. Strolling in relaxed vein through the lovely city the other day, he drew raised eyebrows from even the tolerant burghers of Amsterdam by stopping for a spot of public urination.

A Dutch television crew, in *pursuit of the boy, prompted* a further response: Diego dropped his trousers, this time for a rearward presentation. *The Dutch took all this* with a shrug, as is their wont; but Diego, now back home in Buenos Aires, finds that he is being sued by a philosopher. Antonio Escohotado appeared on television and spoke in favour of the decriminalising of drugs.

Diego, who has some inside knowledge of this subject, was asked for his comments. Unsurprisingly if illogically, he claimed the moral high ground, and incurred the wrath of the philosopher and his lawyers, when he said: "We who have made errors put the young on guard against the risks they represent. And this fellow comes here and says he's got his kids to try drugs. What's he come here to do? Sell drugs?"

Shorts shrift

What does a manager do with turbulent footballers? Fabio Capello, who has just moved from Milan to Real Madrid, clearly believes that dropping of subtle hints is not the answer. Clarence Seedorf, newly signed from Sampdoria, turned up at the airport, not in club blazer as required, but in sports shirt and Bermuda shorts. Seedorf was dispatched to the duty-free, with instructions not to come out until he had bought and put on a jacket and tie. It is not an approach that makes Capello universally loved.

Ignorance is . .

Those of my Olympic colleagues who escaped from Atlanta to see the yachties in Savannah returned filled with delight in the place. (It was the same with those who went to the football in Athens.) Alas, there being no justice, Savannah failed to make a fortune from the Games. No one came to watch. Typical of both the town's charm and the visitors' response was a do, put on by the Baptist Church, which printed up 300,000 brochures, inviting the throngs to their very own "Welcome Tent". No one showed up at all. Not even one.

The usual summer throngs stayed away from Savannah, fearing Olympic congestion, while the Olympic visitors just never materialised. Among the few to stay in Savannah were Mr and Mrs Cotney, of New York. "We didn't even know the Olympics were on until we got here . . ."

United in the search for season's opening edge

As money makes football's world go round faster than ever, **Rob Hughes** is grateful for a little bit of charity

What big hearts, big sporting appetites and charitable souls they *have on* Tyneside. For 5,000 Newcastle United supporters to sleep rough outside St James' Park, queuing for the last tickets for tomor*row's* FA Charity Shield against Manchester United, puts the lie to Francis Bacon's observation: "In charity there is no excess." As far as Newcastle is concerned, it is everything to excess this season, as last.

The fact that the Chari*ty* Shield is football's annual nod to genuine causes, that the £1.2 mil*lion gate receipts will be* spread far and wide to such causes as arthritis research, cancer and the national playing fields fund, makes this curtain-raiser perhaps the most human contribution the rapacious national game offers in each season.

But, of course, *there* is *an ulterior* motive for the sleepless nights around St James' Park. There were among the campers Geordies who, unable to obtain season tickets with a waiting list of 12,000, felt compelled to buy a ticket for Wembley, to be able to say they were there the day Alan Shearer pulled on the black and white *shirt for the first time.*

In fact Shearer, the costliest footballer on Earth, chose to make his debut at Sincil Bank, against Lincoln City last *night*, 48 hours before facing Manchester United, the club which had been almost prepared to break its own bank to possess him. The Geordies at Wembley will regret nothing. For, while Shearer is correct in stating that the Charity Shield is just another pre-season fixture, the symbol of his contest *against the other United* is large indeed.

'Keegan has dropped in at Harrods'

Shearer's capture by Newcastle, his return to his native North East, could tilt *the* balance after a season in which Manchester United won the double, and Newcastle finished regretfully second.

The Newcastle team, as *gifted* in so many departments as Manchester, had been palpably second best in two decisive aspects: they did not defend as well and, crucially, they did not match Manchester United for sheer determination and competitive edge.

Shearer, at a £15 million stroke, could tilt one of those balances. He will not give up when the battle is ferocious, and will not allow others to fade meekly around him. Apart from his 30 goals a season, Newcastle have bought a leader, whether or not he takes the captain's arm band from Peter Beardsley.

Also, tomorrow, we shall see what Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, believes to be the most potent partnership in the game — Shearer wearing No 9, and Les Ferdinand the No 10. Potency indeed, athleticism, endeavour and instinct paired. Despite Keegan's *insistence* that he is a purchaser at the summer sales, not a seller, who knows how serious the temptation might prove if Rangers follow through with a bid in excess of £6 million to take Ferdinand north to Glasgow?

Manchester United, Shearer-less but potent in every other sense, have a full squad except for Andy Cole, who has pneumonia. Yet, Alex Ferguson, their manager, whose persistence forced Blackburn Rovers to sell their star forward, appears to have shopped at Woolworth's compared with Keegan dropping in at Harrods. He has bought *five players, the best known of them* Karel Poborsky, the scampering imp of the Czech Republic's Euro 96 team, and Jordi Cruyff, the striding athlete and son of so famous a father.

Poborsky and Jordi are both right wingers, though neither has the breathtaking, if erratic, pace of Andrei *Kanchelskis. And, if they do provide the* width on the right, what happens to David Beckham, whose passing talents were just beginning to blossom at Old Trafford?

However conservative the intentions are tomorrow — and Newcastle's decision to stop off at Lincoln two days before the encounter emphasised where priorities lie — the only criticism of the Geordie summer has been that the squad is top heavy towards attack. Keegan did try an audacious *move in* defence, asking Juventus, the European champions, to part with Moreno Torricelli. Juventus would not *part with the bearded buccaneer*, but suggested the offered £4.5 million would persuade them to sell the left back, Gianluca Pessotto. Keegan walked away.

'Ferguson has shopped at Woolworth's'

Yet the refusal to sell Torricelli emphasises that England's supposed irresistible call to all nationalities is not *quite as supreme as it is portrayed.* Certainly the television money, worth between £8 million and £15 million per club, has made this country a Mecca for overseas talents; but there is television abroad, too. Italy manages to keep the likes of Paolo Maldini and Gabriel Batistuta, not least because they already have Digitel television, the future here. And Spain? Bobby Robson has spent £21.5 million in his few months at Barcelona, recruiting Ronaldo for £13.3 million, restoring Hristo Stoichkov, and attracting the Frenchman, Laurent Blanc, and the Brazilian, Rivaldo. And even, or especially, Real *Madrid, with debts of £50 million, have* allowed their new coach, Fabio Capello, to speculate £18.6 million of new television money.

It is all around. Thank goodness Wembley tomorrow will provide a truly charitable aspect to this money mania.

FOOTBALL

Shield's interests protected by Newcastle coup

By Peter Ball

IN RECENT years, FA Charity Shield matches have lost some of their appeal as the curtain-raiser to the new season. The appearance of Alan Shearer in Newcastle United's colours promises that the game against Manchester United at Wembley tomorrow will be different.

The fixture can be difficult for players because it is often neither one thing nor another — too much of a showcase to *ignore, but without points or* the rewards of a leading cup competition. "At the end of the day, it's a pre-season friendly," Shearer said this week. "We'll be trying to win, we want to win every game, but getting *three points at Everton [in* Newcastle's opening FA Carling Premiership match] is more important."

Yesterday Alex Ferguson, *the manager of* Manchester United, the double-winners, concurred with those sentiments. However, it did not stop Everton and Blackburn Rovers from trying to kick lumps off one another last year and, as Ferguson admitted, Shearer gives this game an extra dimension.

"Alan Shearer's presence has put an edge to the game," Ferguson said. "It's the first *sell-out for a few years, there's* a lot of hype. Newcastle are feeling bullish after his signing, which adds a bit to it, too."

Since he elected to move to Blackburn, rather than Old Trafford, Shearer's presence *in the opposition has always* stirred up Manchester United supporters and he is expecting the same response now that he has joined Newcastle. "I'm expecting stick from United fans, but that's nothing new to *me*," *he said.*

"I've had it for the last four years. But I've read that this time we'll have *more fans than* them, so I'm hoping the cheers will outsing the jeers."

To add further interest, after the tense championship race last season, the two teams are the ante-post favourites to *make the Premiership* a two-horse race once again. Shearer's presence may even have given Newcastle a slight advantage. "The arrival of Shearer has given everybody here a boost," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said, although he rejected the suggestion that Newcastle are now favourites.

Ferguson went further, dismissing the idea that the title is a two-horse race. "Saying that is premature and very dangerous," he said. "Liverpool were in contention until about three weeks from the end of the season; Aston Villa *were the best team we played* last season and I think Leeds United will be stronger this year."

That is partly a case of the wish being father to the thought, Ferguson saying that *United would benefit from a* crowded race, particuarly while they are involved in the European Cup Champions' League. The knowledge of that extra burden provided the explanation for United's sum*mer signings, the five overseas* players who met the press yesterday.

None are likely to start the match tomorrow, Ferguson expecting at least to start with the players who appeared in *the FA Cup Final.* "The new players may gain more from watching on this occasion," he said, although with Giggs and Pallister short of full match fitness, Karol Poborsky and Ronnie Johnsen may play some of the match, with Poborsky almost certain to make his debut.

The Czech is the front*runner in the pursuit of a* place in the starting line-up when competition begins in earnest. "I bought him to play wide right," Ferguson confirmed. "He will offer us a different kind of penetration to David Beckham."

With Robbie Elliott missing from left back for Newcastle as he sorts out his future, probably with Blackburn, that may spell bad news for John Beresford, not the best defender against a winger who runs at him. Keegan is still waiting to see if Les Ferdinand, who missed the pre-season game at *Lincoln City last night*, recovers from flu in time to begin his partnership with Shearer. Philippe Albert, who is suffering with back trouble, will have a late fitness test.

DETAILS

Manchester United v Newcastle United
(at Wembley, 3 0)

TELEVISION: Sky Sports: 2 0-5.30pm (repeat at 11 0pm-12 30am) Highlights: *BBC1: 10 45-11 35pm*

Ferguson: hype

RAOUL DIXON

Steve Howey, left, and Shearer look on as Keegan feels the strain during Newcastle's training session yesterday

Wilkinson's worries increased by loss of Yeboah

By Russell Kempson

LEEDS United's pre-season preparations have been disrupted by the news that Tony Yeboah, their Ghanaian striker, *will miss the start of the* FA Carling Premiership campaign. Yeboah has been plagued by persistent knee trouble and will undergo an exploratory operation next week.

"It's not the best way to go into the season but, hopefully, the surgery will sort out the trouble," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said yesterday. "At the moment it's not really possible to say how many games Tony will miss."

Yeboah, 30, scored 19 goals last season and made his last appearance in the 3-0 Coca-Cola Cup final defeat against Aston Villa in March. An examination earlier this week revealed that only surgery would clear up the problem.

For Wilkinson, it is the latest disruption in an unsettled *summer* at Elland Road. Although he has bought Lee Bowyer, the highly-prized teenage midfield player, from Charlton Athletic, Nigel Martyn, the goalkeeper, from Crystal Palace, and persuaded *Ian Rush to move from Liver*pool, he has lost the services of his captain, Gary McAllister, to Coventry City, and Gary Speed, to Everton.

A protracted takeover of the club has hampered any further market moves by Wilkinson and although peace has now broken out in the boardroom, there is little time left for him to contemplate buying a replacement for Yeboah.

Bruce Rioch, the Arsenal manager, has endured an even more frustrating close season with still no significant signings at Highbury during *the past three months. If Rioch* is to strengthen his squad for the club's Uefa Cup campaign, he has to do so before next Thursday — the deadline for the competition. Any players bought subsequently would be ineligible until the *third round.*

"We do need two or three new faces before the start of *the season,*" *Rioch said* recently. However, reports that he had made a £4.5 million bid for George Weah, AC Milan's Liberian striker and the European Footballer of the Year, have been discounted. It is believed, though, that he may be considering a £5 million move for Stuart Ripley, the Blackburn Rovers and former *England winger.*

Mark McGhee, the Wolverhampton Wanderers manager, made his fourth signing of the summer yesterday when he acquired Serge Romano, 31, the French full back, on a free *transfer from* Martigues and Ivano Bonetti, the Grimsby Town and former Juventus and Torino midfield player, *has joined Tranmere Rovers* on a 12-month contract.

Keith Welch, however, has rejected the chance of a £250,000 move to Blackpool, for the most bizarre of reasons. Welch, the Bristol City goalkeeper, had agreed personal terms but was unhappy with the accommodation offered to him — £10-a-night *bed-and-breakfast lodgings.*

"I expected to be put up in a hotel, like any other footballer moving clubs, until I found somewhere to buy," Welch said. "They refused to budge so I called it all off."

Neil Ruddock, the Liverpool central defender, was also left feeling aggrieved yesterday. He was fined £2,000 by the Football Association and given a warning as to his future conduct for exceeding 45 disciplinary points last season, when he was booked 11 times and served two suspensions.

Title race to feature Firm favourites and also-rans

As the Scottish league season gets under way, **Kevin McCarra** expects Rangers and Celtic to finish well clear of the rest

THE Bell's Scottish League premier division *is a society* so segregated that there must surely be a Channel 4 documentary about it in the works. On the upper slopes of the premier division table the Old Firm live in conditions of *repellent* affluence. Down in the foothills are the shanty towns, where the rest of the clubs exist in anxious squalor.

It *would be pleasant, on the* opening day of the league season, to report that bloodthirsty revolution is being plotted, but the established order is, in fact, more entrenched than ever. The ascen*dancy of Celtic* and Rangers is not a recent development, but its consequences may never have been quite so severe before.

Scottish football is being drained of its capacity to dream. The majority of clubs retain a belief in their own prospects by fantasising about the conjunction of home*grown talent* with an inspirational manager that would allow them to break through and take the premier division title. It had happened *just* often enough, particularly at Aberdeen and Dundee United in the mid-1980s, to keep the notion tenable.

Now, however, the lesser clubs have lost faith in their *ability to overthrow logic. In* consequence, the health of the premier division as a whole is in doubt just as the competition for the title has become more vigorous than ever. There are only two contestants but the Old Firm, awash with *glamour, are equipped* to compensate for that lack of diversity.

Celtic, with 40,000 season-ticket sales generated *by a* combination of the supporters' fevered faith and the box office appeal of Paolo di Canio and Alan Stubbs, the new signings, are virtually on a crusade to prevent Rangers *equalling their record of nine* successive championships, set *between 1966 and 1974. The* club has always considered itself a place of spectacle and a home for virtuosos. Inevitably, of course, it can fail to live up to its own billing and, last season, a very attractive team fell just short of Rangers because its imaginative pow*ers flagged when met by sheer* obstinacy. Three draws against Kilmarnock, for instance, must still nag at the manager.

Celtic need an equivalent to Brian Laudrup or Paul Gascoigne at Ibrox. Di Canio, late of AC Milan, may have the *artistry required but he must* now demonstrate that he is ready to be the linchpin of a whole team. It is a role that was never required of him in Italy. Indeed, the side as a whole has yet to prove that it can apply its great talents in the decisive games.

The strength that Rangers have drawn from Celtic's revival is often underestimated. If there was any possibility that they might weary of winning it disappeared when the fresh delight of thwarting their rivals was added to the familiar pleasures. Last season, *Celtic found every avenue* blocked by Rangers, who knocked them out of the Coca-Cola Cup and the Tennents Scottish Cup, as well as heading them off in the league. The fact that no new forward has come to Rangers so far has led some supporters to act as if they are being victimised by a club that has been more spectacular in previous summers, but the team may no longer be in need of drastic change. *The 3-1 defeat of* Alania Vladikavkaz, achieved without Paul Gascoigne, in the European Cup on Wednesday suggested a side that is maturing without the intrusion of a phalanx of *newcomers.*

While Rangers consider whether they should abstain from the transfer market, *others with a pressing need for* fresh players cannot afford to enter it. Motherwell have lost Rob McKinnon to Twente Enschede without the solace of a transfer fee and yesterday had Paul Lambert taken from them in the same manner by Borussia Dortmund.

The Bosman ruling has afflicted Aberdeen, Heart of *Midlothian and Hibernian;* Dundee United, as well, but they at least have had some money available for replacements. The second of Aberdeen's Bulgarian acquisitions, Tzanko Tzvetanov, makes his debut against Celtic tomorrow and Heart of Midlothian have recruited Scottish players imaginatively.

Over the course of the season, however, the Old Firm are liable to be too absorbed with one another to notice that anyone else's ambitions even exist.

CLUB-BY-CLUB GUIDE TO THE BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

ABERDEEN

After the loss of Eoin Jess and, this summer, Gary Smith, Aberdeen were scrambling just to stand still. Buying Bulgarians as replacements is certainly novel and the handsome 4-1 win in Lithuania over *Zalgiris Vilnius in* the Uefa Cup on Tuesday proved that the old hands continue to deserve respect.

IN: Ilian Kinakov (Anorthosis Famagusta), Tzanko Tzvetanov (Waldhof Mannheim).

OUT: Gary Smith (Rennes), Paul Kane (Viking Stavanger).

LAST SEASON: League: third. Coca-Cola Cup: winners. Scottish Cup: semi-finals

CELTIC

Despite the celebrity and expense of the new signings, Celtic's collective frame of mind will matter more than any individual's flair. Exciting football is assured, but strength of temperament is still to be demonstrated in Old Firm matches. All three of their defeats in Scottish football last season were inflicted by Rangers

IN: Paolo di Canio (AC Milan), Alan Stubbs (Bolton Wanderers).

OUT: John Collins (AS Monaco), Rudi Vata (Apollon Limassol)

LAST SEASON: League: runners-up. Coca-Cola Cup: quarter-finals. Scottish Cup: semi-finals. Cup Winners' Cup: second round

DUNDEE UNITED

The escape from the first division was ungainly and the process of re-establishing a club that had been in long-term, gradual decline could also be awkward. Unless the pressing *need for another forward can be met,* the team will depend on its low-key proficiency to ensure a calm season

IN: Lance Key (Sheffield Wednesday), Neil Duffy (Dundee), Armand Benneker (Maastricht)

OUT: Christian Dailly (Derby County), Craig Brewster (Ionikos)

LAST SEASON: League: first division runners-up. Coca-Cola Cup: third round. Scottish Cup: quarter-finals

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

With finances scarred by four years outside the premier division, the club cannot buy itself security. Money has mostly gone on new contracts for the old faces and, despite that form of stability, Dunfermline have only collective endeavour and an aura of tradition to protect them in a hazardous year.

IN: Gerry Britton (Dundee)

OUT: none.

LAST SEASON: League: first division champions. Coca-Cola Cup: third round. Scottish Cup: fourth round

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN

Exuberance alone is an achievement at a club with debts of some £5 million and, under Jim Jefferies, a lack of cash is no hindrance to frequent and thought-provoking signings. Real improvement has accompanied the showmanship and Hearts prove that clubs outside the Old Firm *need not lead pallid lives*

IN: Jeremy Goss (Norwich City), Neil McCann (Dundee), David Weir (Falkirk), Roddy McKenzie (Stenhousemuir)

OUT: Allan Johnston (Rennes), Brian Hamilton, Craig Nelson, Neil Berry (all Falkirk)

LAST SEASON: League: fourth. Coca-*Cola Cup: quarter-finals.* Scottish Cup: final

HIBERNIAN

The sedate life of the club disintegrated with the lamentable form of the second half of last season. There is a basic soundness, despite the loss of Michael O'Neill, but the jaded *mood must be dispelled.* Kevin Harper, the young forward, could assist the process of rejuvenation

IN: Ian Cameron (Partick Thistle), *Brian Welsh (Dundee United)*

OUT: Michael O'Neill (Coventry City), Steven Tweed (Ionikos), David Farrell, Gareth Evans (both Partick Thistle)

LAST SEASON: League: fifth. Coca-Cola Cup: third round. Scottish Cup: third round

KILMARNOCK

Having rebuilt their stadium and amassed a large overdraft, Kilmarnock are obliged to keep faith with the existing squad, although an attempt to sign Mark Hateley was made. Players such as John Henry and Paul Wright can be impressive, but the club could have a fear of relegation

IN: none.

OUT: Tom Black (Stranraer), Robert *Connor (Ayr United), Steve Maskrey* (Partick Thistle).

LAST SEASON: League: seventh. Coca-Cola Cup: third round. Scottish Cup: fourth round

MOTHERWELL

If they were not so devastated, Motherwell *might* have been flattered to find their best players coveted. Rob McKinnon has gone to Twente Enschede and Paul Lambert is on trial with Borussia Dortmund. After the Bosman ruling, no fee was required *for either, leaving Motherwell plun*dered, poor and beleaguered

IN: none.

OUT: Rob McKinnon (Twente Enschede), Paul Lambert (Borussia Dortmund)

LAST SEASON: League: eighth. Coca-Cola Cup: quarter-finals. Scottish Cup: third round. Uefa Cup: preliminary round.

RAITH ROVERS

Jimmy Nicholl, the manager, and three players who left for Millwall are only part of even greater alterations. In a few months, Jimmy Thomson has virtually built a new team but it can hardly expect to equal its predecessors. This second season in the premier division may be hazardous

IN: Kevin Twaddle (St Johnstone), Paul Browne (Aston Villa), Paul Harvey (Airdrieonians), David Craig (Hamilton Academical), Robert Raeside (Dundee).

OUT: Stephen Crawford, David Sinclair, Jason Dair (all Millwall), Barry Wilson (Caledonian Thistle).

LAST SEASON: League: sixth. Coca-Cola *Cup: third round.* Scottish Cup: fourth round. Uefa Cup: second round

RANGERS

The signings, although costly, may have been less dramatic than usual but disruption is not required. The 3-1 victory over Alania Vladikavkaz in the European Cup suggests that a *settled squad has learnt its lines.* There is no hint of the flagging ambition that might thwart pursuit of a ninth successive championship.

IN: Jorg Albertz (Hamburg), Joachim Bjorklund (Vicenza)

OUT: John Morrow (Oldham Athletic).

LAST SEASON: League: champions. Coca-Cola Cup: semi-finals. Scottish Cup: winners. European Cup: Champions' League stage

MOTOR RACING 36
Williams close in once more on chequered flag

SPORT

RACING 38, 39
Cigar galloping headlong into the record books

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

England launch spirited reply to Pakistan's imposing total despite loss of Atherton

Stewart responds to early alarm

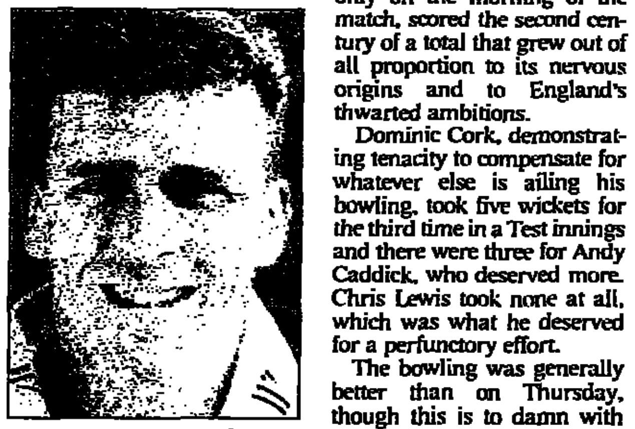
BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HEADINGLEY (second day of five): England, with nine first-innings wickets standing, are 344 runs behind Pakistan

WITH exquisite timing, a fire alarm rang out angrily above the England dressing-room yesterday evening at just the moment Michael Atherton was losing his wicket. This has been the case for years when the captain is out, if not quite so literally, but seldom has Atherton left his team facing such a searching test of resolve, nor one of such pressing importance.

Only the myopic were seduced by victory over a limited India side in the first half of the summer. England remain an essentially modest team and Pakistan, predictably enough, are proving it. But if the genuine and admirable optimism generated under new management and selectors is not to be shouted down by scepticism, the worst excesses this match can throw at them must be resisted.

When Atherton perished against Wasim Akram, caught off an inside edge in only the third over of their reply to a total of 448, England were on the precipice. To lose another wicket or more, in the 22 overs remaining, would have been to raise the spectre of the follow-on and a defeat more demoralising than at Lord's, a defeat costing them this Cornhill series and some carefully cultivated credibility.



Stewart: aggressive

But England did not simply survive, they counter-attacked thrillingly. Alec Stewart and Nasser Hussain shared an unbroken stand of 90, at four runs an over, with Stewart scarcely offering a false shot in making his fourth half-century in five Test innings.

Pakistan will not be cowed by this. They have demonstrated often enough their ability to lie in wait and then apply a spectacularly swift ambush. But England have at least responded with spirited, unselfish batting to a problem largely of their own making.

England planned this pivotal second Test with military precision, but it was a narrow operation, dependent on singular circumstances and exemplary performance. The circumstances were as prescribed but the performance was not, so, until teatime and beyond yesterday, England were suffering for their ineptitude on Thursday.

When you choose four seam bowlers and insert the opposition on a moist Headingley pitch, you must bowl them out on the first day or face the consequences. England slept with only six wickets taken, then required 64 overs yesterday to claim the remainder. In the process, Moin Khan, the deputy wicketkeeper, who learnt that he was playing only on the morning of the match, scored the second century of a total that grew out of all proportion to its nervous origins and to England's thwarted ambitions.

Dominic Cork, demonstrating tenacity to compensate for whatever else is ailing his bowling, took five wickets for the third time in a Test innings and there were three for Andy Caddick, who deserved more. Chris Lewis took none at all, which was what he deserved for a perfunctory effort.

The bowling was generally better than on Thursday, though this is to damn with faint praise. Raymond Illingworth, the chairman of selectors, reported that the ball had marked the damp surface on the first day but that most of the marks were on an inappropriate length. In fact, he put it rather more bluntly than this.

The inevitable cries that the balance of the team was misguided are as facile as those that condemn the decision to bowl first. England at least had a credible plan, which might well have worked if better executed. To bemoan the absence of a spinner yesterday was to employ hindsight as a convenient ally — to say, indeed, that one ought to have known the seamers would not do their job.

Caddick, however, is worthy of praise and encouragement, for he will bowl worse than this and take six cheaper wickets. His destiny was encapsulated when Moin flipped his second ball yesterday morning to long leg, where Mullally dropped the catch. Moin had scored just eight; he was to add a further 97.

It briefly seemed that Mullally had atoned when he induced a similar shot from Moin, ten runs later, and Stewart held it unfussily. But for the second time in the innings, a catch had been taken off a no-ball, which was a shade cruel even to a team that had done little to earn the breaks.

Three hours had elapsed before England broke the stand that was a record for Pakistan's seventh wicket against England and produced the highest Pakistan Test score on this ground. Asif Mujtaba, a limpet for 268 minutes, finally aimed a cramped cut against Cork and Thorpe, at slip, grabbed the chance at the third attempt.

Moin pressed on, beguiling in his curious style, unafraid to shovel the seamers back over their heads or to whip them over the leg-side field. The lives he had already used up were augmented when Cork put down a difficult, left-handed return catch, but his century came through a scrambled single off the last ball before tea. Some twilight cricket then ensued in light so bad that England would not have considered beginning their reply.

This escape, however, was to be denied to them, for after the last three Pakistan wickets had fallen for 16, Cork's eyes bulging in animation as he took two of them, the clouds broke to allow watery sunshine at change of innings. Atherton was illuminated only briefly but Stewart and Hussain refused to retreat to the shadows and the patriots in a capacity crowd at last had something to cheer.

Michael Henderson, page 40
Surrey triumph, page 41

Moin completes the run that brought him his century with a dive yesterday. Had Hussain's throw hit the stumps, he might have been out. *Photograph: Hugh Routledge*

HEADINGLEY SCOREBOARD

England won toss

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Saeed Anwar c Atherton b Mullally (12min, 11 balls)	1
Shadab Kabir lbw b Caddick (122min, 90 balls, 5 fours)	35
Ijaz Ahmed c Russell b Cork (279min, 201 balls, 2 sixes, 20 fours)	141
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Atherton b Mullally (11min, 10 balls)	2
Salim Malik b Cork (193min, 143 balls, 3 fours)	55
Asif Mujtaba c Thorpe b Cork (267min, 220 balls, 4 fours)	51
*Wasim Akram c Russell b Caddick (17min, 12 balls, 1 four)	7
†Moin Khan c Russell b Cork (282min, 191 balls, 1 six, 10 fours)	105
Mushtaq Ahmed c Atherton b Caddick (83min, 43 balls, 2 fours)	20
Waqar Younis c and b Cork (11min, 11 balls, 1 four)	7
Ata-ur-Rehman not out (4min, 1 ball)	0
Extras (b 4, lb 10, nb 10)	24
Total (153.2 overs, 645min)	448

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Shadab 0), 2-98 (Ijaz 58), 3-103 (Ijaz 59), 4-233 (Salim 41), 5-252 (Asif 5), 6-266 (Asif 12), 7-378 (Moin 64), 8-434 (Mushtaq 14), 9-444 (Mushtaq 16).

BOWLING: Caddick 40.2-6-113-3 (nb 1; 1 six, 14 fours, 6-1-12-0, 7-1-24-1, 4-1-15-0, 5-1-15-0, 4-1-11-1, 5-0-12-0, 5-1-6-0, 4-0-14-0, 0.2-0-4-1); Mullally 41-10-99-2 (nb 5; 1 six, 9 fours; 5-1-15-1, 9-1-26-1, 2-1-9-0, 8-2-23-0, 8-4-12-0, 4-0-4-0, 5-1-10-0); Lewis 32-4-100-0 (nb 3, 10 fours; 4-0-24-0, 6-0-21-0, 4-1-7-0, 4-1-10-0, 5-0-19-0, 5-2-7-0, 2-0-4-0, 2-0-8-0); Cork 37-6-113-5 (nb 5; 1 six, 12 fours; 7-0-25-0, 7-2-23-0, 7-3-11-2, 5-1-13-0, 8-0-29-1, 3-0-12-2); Thorpe 3-1-9-0 (1 four; 1-0-3-0, 2-1-6-0)

SCORING NOTES: Second day: Lunch: 350-6 (120 overs, 500min; Asif 39, Moin 54) Tea: 423-7 (148 overs, 619min; Moin 100, Mushtaq 9)

ENGLAND: First Innings

*M A Atherton c Moin b Wasim (12min, 13 balls, 2 fours)	12
A J Stewart not out (102min, 68 balls, 8 fours)	52
N Hussain not out (90min, 70 balls, 3 fours)	37
Extras (b 2, lb 1)	3
Total (1 wkt, 25 overs, 102min)	104

G P Thorpe, J P Crawley, N V Knight, †R C Russell, C C Lewis, D G Cork, A R Caddick and A D Mullally to bat

FALL OF WICKET: 1-14 (Stewart 2)

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 7-0-22-1 (3 fours; 7-0-22-1); Waqar Younis 4-0-37-0 (nb 1; 6 fours; 1-0-11-0, 3-0-26-0); Ata-ur-Rehman 6-0-20-0 (1 four; 3-0-15-0, 3-0-5-0); Mushtaq Ahmed 8-2-22-0 (3 fours; 8-2-22-0)

SCORING NOTES: Second day: Lunch: 98-2 (28.5 overs, 122min; Ijaz 58) Tea: 202-3 (58 overs, 244min; Ijaz 127, Salim 26)

Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and D R Shepherd. Third umpire: R Julian. Match referee: P L van der Merwe.

SERIES DETAILS: First Test (Lord's): Pakistan won by 164 runs. Test to [illegible]. Third (The Oval) August 22 to 26.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Grobbelaar joins Argyle on one-year contract

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BRUCE GROBBELAAR, the former Liverpool and Southampton goalkeeper, has joined Plymouth Argyle, the Nationwide League second division club, on a 12-month contract. Neil Warnock, the Plymouth manager, completed the signing yesterday despite knowing that Grobbelaar will possibly be unavailable in January, when he is due to face court charges over allegations of match-fixing.

"I've been after Bruce for weeks and I'm delighted to have finally reached agreement with him," Warnock said. "I think he will give everyone here a lift in what I believe is going to be a difficult season for us. I realise he has got problems but what matters most is what he does out there on the pitch."

Plymouth were promoted from the third division last season, during Warnock's first term in charge after replacing Peter Shilton, the former England goalkeeper. Grobbelaar, 38, was released by Southampton after making only two appearances in the FA Carling Premiership. He had previously played almost 450 league matches for Liverpool.

He was considering alternative offers — of coaching in South Africa, or taking the assistant coach's job with the Zimbabwe national team — when Warnock's persistence paid off. "When Neil phoned me a couple of weeks ago, I felt I had to look at the proposal long and hard," Grobbelaar said. "I feel I've still got four years of top-class football ahead of me and Plymouth is an outfit that is going places. If you look at the gates, the potential is much higher here than at Southampton. With that potential behind you, I certainly think that the club can go only one way."

Grobbelaar again maintained his innocence over the match-fixing allegations and said that he felt they would not distract him while playing for Plymouth. "It hasn't affected me up until now so why should it during the court case?" he said. "I don't care who you are in the world, nobody could have played football like I have done after the allegations.

"I've always said that I am innocent of all charges brought against me and, when we go to court, we will find out. I've got no ill feeling. I can sleep well at night. I know that the right decision will be made when we get to court. I have said that all along. It comes down to that final showdown and, in that final showdown, we will certainly see who is the guilty party in this instance."

Football 96/97

In *The Times* on Monday, a 24-page guide to the season plus another chance to play Interactive Team Football

Scot joins German champions

PAUL LAMBERT, of Motherwell, became another Scottish football export yesterday. Taking advantage of the Bosman ruling, he joined the German champions, Borussia Dortmund on a three-year contract, after impressing their coach, Ottmar Hitzfeld, during two trial periods.

Motherwell lost to Borussia in the Uefa Cup two seasons ago and Hitzfeld has kept a close watch on Lambert since then. Now the 27-year-old midfielder will be able to play in the Champions' League alongside Andreas Moller and Matthias Sammer.

"I am absolutely delighted to have tied up the deal," Lambert said in a radio interview. "It is very hard to go on trial at a club like Dortmund with the players they have."

Lambert, Glasgow-born, began his career with St Mirren, winning a Scottish Cup medal with the Paisley club in 1987 and moving to Fir Park in 1993. His departure is another blow for the Motherwell manager, Alex McLeish, who lost Rob McKinnon to Twente Enschede, of Holland, for neither player commanded a fee.

Lambert will hope his move will help secure a place in the Scotland squad for the World Cup qualifying campaign.

Hole in one helps Singh into share of early lead

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

THE promise that Vijay Singh has shown around the world and the consistency that has made him a realistic contender in major championships these past two years was being fulfilled in the US PGA Championship here at Valhalla golf club yesterday. Singh had a second 69 to be six under par and share the lead after 36 holes with Kenny Perry. Singh holed in one on the 14th, the third ace of the championship.

"I pulled it a little bit but it hit the slope and rolled into the hole," Singh said of his ace. However, Singh bogeyed the very next hole, where he missed an eight-foot par putt.

Ian Woosnam made sure of his place in the last two rounds with a 72 for a total of 140, four under par, as did Greg Norman, 72, also four under par, and Larry Mize, the 1986 US Masters champion, who was three under par. But Colin Montgomerie almost certainly missed the cut at the second successive major championship in succession when he had a horrid run of bogeys towards the conclusion of his round.

Perry had tied the course record of 66 in the first round much to the delight of Kentuckians for he comes from Elizabethtown and grew up near the Tennessee border. He found the par 72-course rather more difficult in the second round, having difficulty in holing the putts that make a difference between a very good round and a relatively ordinary one. Perry's 72 matched par for a halfway total of 138.

Every time he made a birdie, it seemed, he followed it with a bogey. "I played really good but I didn't make any putts today," Perry said. Perry had a chance to stay in front with a reasonable birdie opportunity on the 540-yard final hole, he said, but he rushed the putt because his group had been given a penalty warning for slow play.

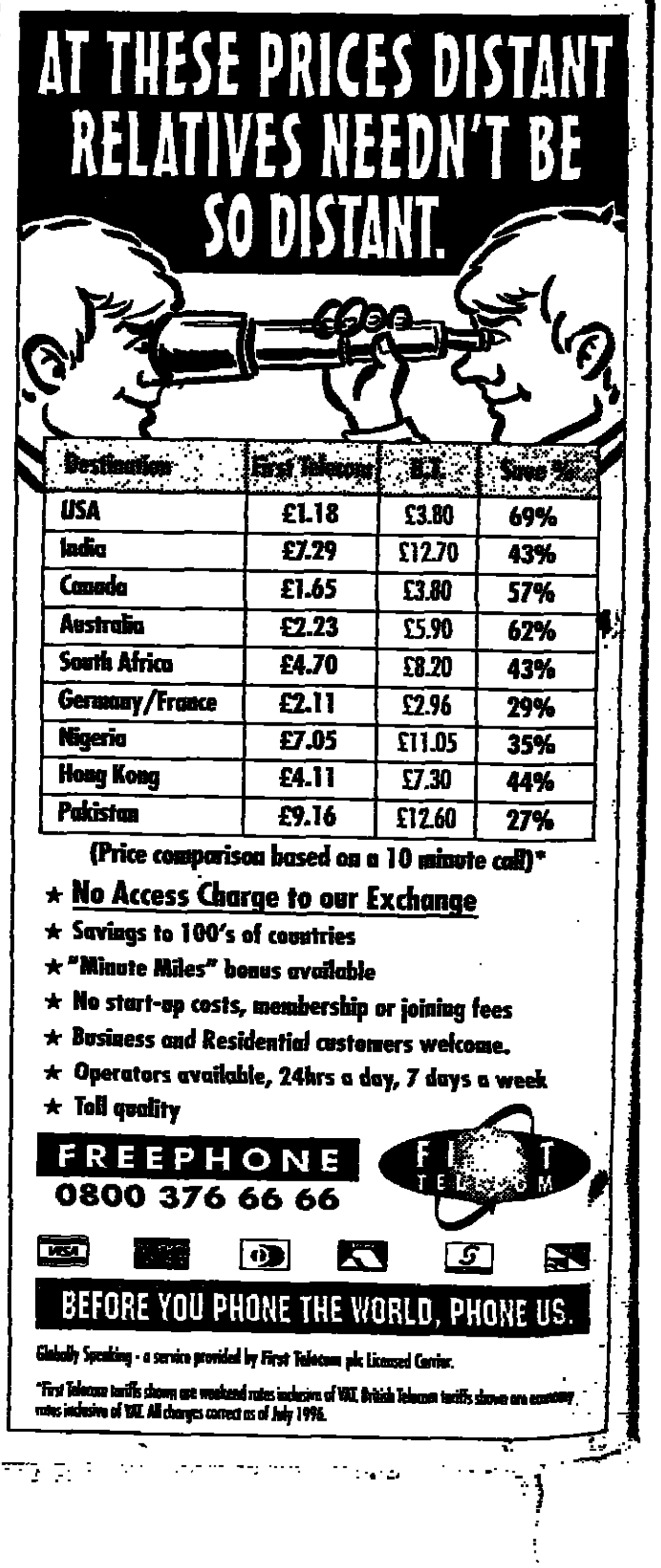
"That really broke my concentration," Perry said of the time warning, which he felt was not necessary. "That was a frustrating way to end the round," he added.

Of those players who use the broomhandle putter, Singh is one of the few to be considered a threat in every major championship in which he competes. For him, the ungainly instrument has made an enormous difference to his game. He finished eleventh in the Open at Lytham. It helped to steady him when he went for six holes without a par, having three bogeys, two birdies and that eagle.

Phil Mickelson was threatening to run away from the field. Mickelson was nine under par as he approached the end of his second round, having had a blazing run of four birdies in eight holes. Howard Clark added a 72 to his first round of 73 to be on 145, one over par.

Norman in the swing at Valhalla yesterday

Montgomerie's toil, page 42
Scores, page 42



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TRAVEL

The city deep in sausages, beer and oom-pah

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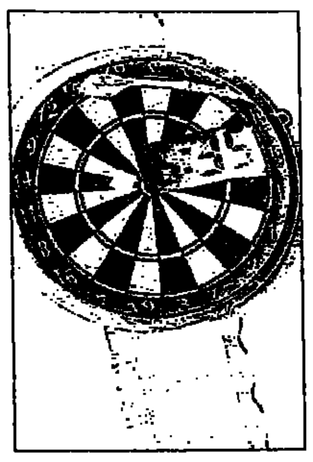
SHOPPING



Watches: the new target for followers of fashion

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Sarah Bradford on food like mother once made

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PETS

Romantic accident that begat a new cat breed

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PLUS: Peacocks in your garden, page 4

WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

[illegible]

Shooting grouse is all right, fox-hunting isn't — some say. **Peter Barnard** explores what 'animal welfare' means

There is a cry that can be heard in the countryside every spring. It is enough to make your blood run cold. It comes from a landscape which in human terms resembles the remains of a brief, bloody skirmish in a war zone. The cry is not a brief lament. It continues for many hours, sometimes for days. The culprit is to be found in the main picture on this page, and if you have concluded that I refer to the human hunter then you demonstrate the understandable confusion that surrounds the very British debate about animals.

For the cry is the cry of a ewe, a mother who has lost her newborn lambs not to a foxhunt but to a fox. The ewe's lament perfectly embodies the myths and contradictions of the animal rights argument. The confusion is such that there is a need to pause and consider, as grouse prepare to rise on the Glorious Twelfth, just what is our attitude to animals. What is an "animal lover"?

Evidently there is conflict, not least within that bastion of animal protection, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Infiltration by animal rights activists, followed by infiltration on the part of field sports supporters, has riven the organisation. Although broadly opposed to field sports, the RSPCA's position has evolved interestingly over 40 years.

In the 1950s, it opposed hunting but feared that abolition would lead to an increase in other methods, including shooting. In the 1970s, it "deplored the unnecessary killing of any animal". Now, although the RSPCA opposes field sports and rejects the notion that foxes are a serious vermin problem, it accepts shooting where this is done expertly.

Opponents, such as the British Field Sports Society, see this as muddled thinking. They say that the large reduction in the number of expert gamekeepers and the reluctance of farmers to keep rifles post-Hungerford and Dunblane means that shooting (shotguns are less effective than rifles) is a less humane option now than it was 40 years ago.

This polarisation of policy based on the same facts is easy to understand but hard to reconcile. There is little compromise, even on details. Sending terriers down fox holes, deplored by the antis, is defended by the pros, who insist the practice must continue.

Hunters say that terrier work is done only as a service to farmers, usually when a hunt fails to make a kill. The farmer's attitude is: you chased the fox on to my land, you get rid of him. A terrier is sent down wearing a locater collar, the dog holds the fox at bay and the hunter digs down to the fox and shoots it.

The importance of the debate is given impetus by the appearance on the near-horizon of an army potentially more lethal than any band of saboteurs: new Labour is coming.

According to a recent Labour Party document, *A Working Countryside*, the shooting and fishing brigade has nothing to fear: "We support the work which is under way with national shooting and fishing groups to establish codes of best practice in both these sports."

But: "One kind of countryside enjoyment Labour cannot endorse — hunting with hounds. A Labour government will make parliamentary time available for a free vote on the abolition of fox hunting, deer hunting and hare coursing with dogs."

This appears to mean that a fox or a deer can be killed provided it has not first been chased by hounds. A fudge? If so it only reflects the

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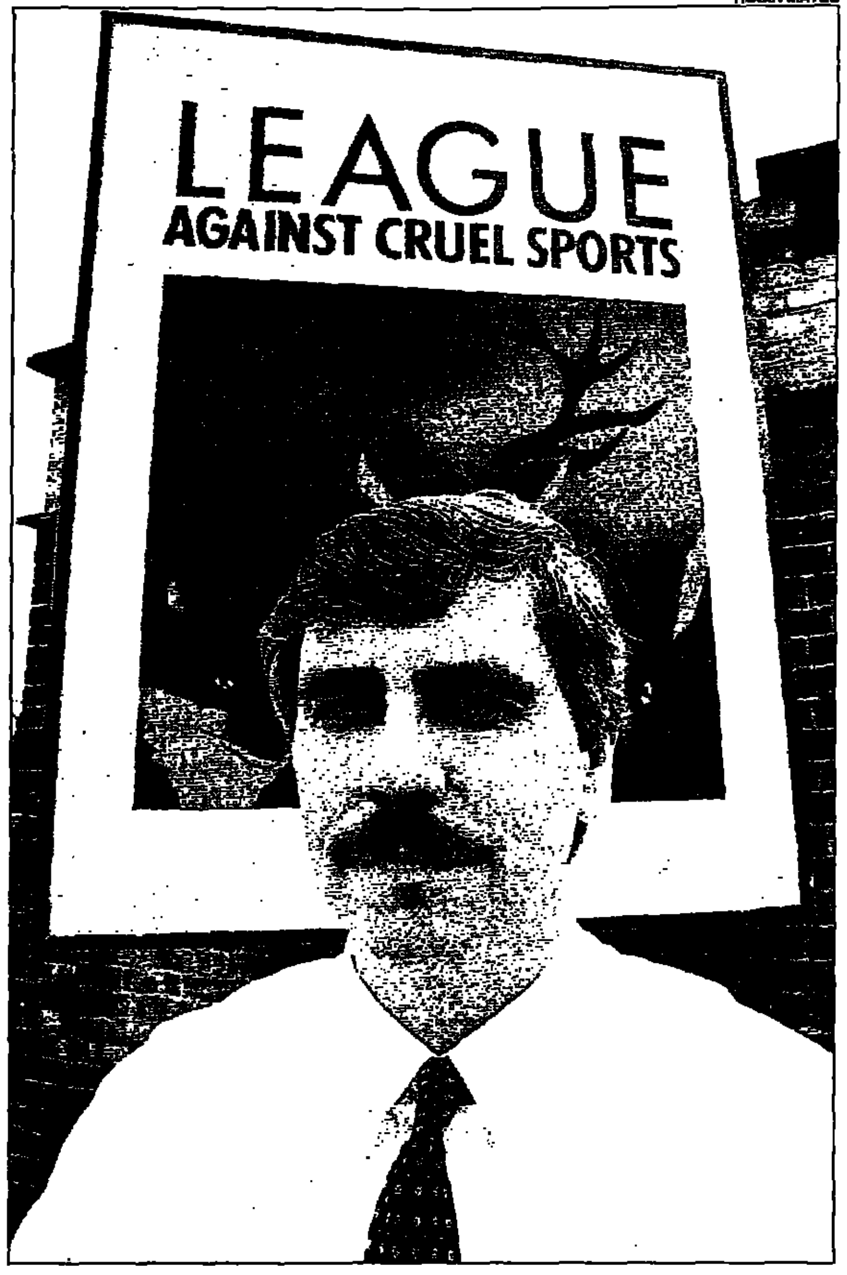
RAC

'Love' of animals is often in inverse proportion to experience of them

NATIONAL PICTURES

ROBIN MAYES



COLORIFIC

CARLA LANE, a member of the International Fund for Animal Welfare, television writer and owner of an animal sanctuary in a 40-acre estate in Sharpthorne, West Sussex:

"I do not know what goes on inside the head of a man who hugs his wife, pats his dog, kisses his children and goes out to shoot a rabbit. How does it work? It's mainly men: of course. It's a macho sort of thing to prove how much testosterone they've got. They used to fight dragons, now it's salmon, or foxes or rabbits. The hunting people are hand in glove with the Government: lots of Tory MPs are hunting, shooting and fishing types. The end of hunting is nigh, and the hunting folk are desperate to re-establish it. That's why they are trying to take over the RSPCA. Nature should be given the chance to manage herself: she's cleverer than these people think."

JAMES BARRINGTON, former executive director of the League Against Cruel Sports, now running the Wildlife Network:

"The idea that you can leave management up to nature is flawed. What would you do? Pull out human use of the land? Reintroduce the wolf? No, a balance must be struck. If there were a ban on fox-hunting, the 15,000 foxes killed by hounds every year would be translated into deaths by shooting, snaring and other forms of fox killing. Some people would obliterate them. There's a tension between fox-shooters and fox-hunters. The shooters don't want the fox, the hunters do. Faced with a ban on hunting, the landowners may well say, 'Let's kill them all'.

"I'd like to see terrier work stopped. We win by helping the fox; the anti-hunters win by doing away with the nastier side."

LORD MANCROFT, vice-chairman of the British Field Sports Society, who devised the BFSS infiltration of the RSPCA:.

"The only people really interested in the fox are fox-hunters. The relationship between hunter and quarry is complex and fascinating.

"If you're tending 1,000 ewes on Snowdon between January and March you can't be expected to set out with a rifle to catch an animal perfectly camouflaged which can see and hear you from 200 yards away. You're going to get the local huntsman to come along with three or four dogs. Terrier work is the least attractive side, but the farmer insists. He wants that fox dead. Hunting and being hunted is part of the fox's life. It's born in spring and killing its own food by autumn. It has no knowledge of death. The fox doesn't know until it's time to think, 'In a minute I'll be in dead trouble'."

Continued from page 1

British attitude to animals, which is far from the much-publicised extremes.

At one extreme, it is nonsensical to say that the only purpose of a fox hunt is to kill foxes. A fox hunt is a social activity with long traditions which has a validity beyond its nominal purpose.

At the other extreme it is equally nonsensical to claim that banning hunts would, or should, protect foxes. Foxes are vermin, and that they are more physically attractive than, say, rats does not make them less of a nuisance.

Most of the anti-hunting lobby now accepts that foxes are vermin but claims that there are more humane ways to kill them. Yes, they can be shot, but with great difficulty and with a real risk of only wounding them. Poisoning, which is illegal, would have the same outcome and arbitrarily kills other creatures, including dogs.

There is a more vivid emotional argument against deer hunting, evoking as it does countless oil paintings of the mighty stag, many of which are on the walls of people who support field sports.

Videos from protesters purport to show stags having their throats torn out and these have powerful sway in the media. But deer have to be culled. Elderly deer lose their teeth and will starve to death if they are not shot. Most hunted stags flee from the hunters until they find water, in which they stand "at bay". They are then shot: few of them are brought down by hounds, though they certainly suffer when that happens.

One of the difficulties about the animal argument is the intrusion of the term "animal rights". Some pro-hunting polemicists make a rod for their own backs by citing ambiguous Bible references ("dominion over the animals") or by making a spurious connection: that animals have rights only if they have duties and responsibilities. This won't do, or it had better not do. If creatures have no rights without responsibilities, humans paralysed and comatose from road accidents can be done with as we will, because they can carry out no duties nor exercise any responsibility.

If animal rights are a moot concept, perhaps there is some way to define an animal lover? Is it someone who cares for the welfare of all animals? Is a vegetarian who dotes on ten cats disbarred from qualifying as an animal lover because she wears lipstick made from animal products?

The curious thing about our "love" of animals is that it tends to be in inverse proportion to our direct experience of them. I would guess that most vegetarians live in cities. Many animal rights campaigners have a selective attitude, based more on emotion and rhetoric than logic.

Women in mink coats have been attacked in the street. Mink farms are raided and the mink released. As a result, the mink is back on our riverbanks — and the mink is a ravenous creature.

Now take the water vole. You do not see any pages in *Hello!* magazine in which famous women are seen wearing coats made of water vole. If they did, such coats would be expensive, because the water vole is fast disappearing. The reason for its plight is that it has been eaten by the growing population of . . . mink.

Such contradictions should not preclude judgment. I think that an animal lover is someone who respects all animals, who wants animals used for food to live a natural and dignified life and be killed humanely. An animal lover surely cannot support, under any circumstances, the use of animals to test eye shadow.

If this sounds moderate, it has radical implications. That phrase about a dignified and natural life would turn the food industry upside down, affecting every one of us. It would transform farming and disable feedstuff suppliers. It would mean the end of battery and deep-litter poultry rearing, it would take veal off the menu altogether. Considerable acres would have to be given over to free-range poultry. Shop prices would rise, with chicken and turkey becoming once again a luxury.

And then there is the cow, the lugubrious muncher in the meadow now a political animal *par excellence*. Who would have dreamed that dear old Daisy, a living synonym for the word sanguine, might one day stand between her own incineration and that of Douglas Hogg's career?

The root cause of the BSE crisis is that cows are ruminant animals: they are designed to live on grass, not the remains of sheep delivered in a bag. Every farmer knows this: most farmers either ignore it or are forced to do so for financial reasons.

This week I asked a smallscale farmer, who is mostly organic, what he thought had caused the BSE crisis. "Greed," he said. "Farmers have gone for bigger yields to make more money, which means bigger farms and vast loans to buy expensive machinery. To service the loans they have to reduce other costs, and animal feed is a lot cheaper than setting up the equipment and hiring the labour to make their own winter fodder. Only the small farms can do that."

An unfortunate fact intrudes on the logical conclusion to that argument: five cows will eat an acre of grass in one day. Therefore we would have to give over much more of our countryside to grazing and to produce winter fodder, if all beef and milk production was to become organic.

On Monday the grouse season opens. The grouse is a hapless bird, prone to illness and predation, which can only thrive on young moorland growth. The grouse survives in numbers because the owners of moorland manage it. The fires we see on moorland are to burn off old growth to provoke the new growth that grouse need.

Land management is expensive. Grouse shooting, now a multimillion pound industry, pays for it. Landowners have as much right to a living as anyone else. There is, therefore, a view that the grouse who die this season will ensure the survival of the breed.

Nature is of course self-adjusting. But since farming began, human beings have needed to control nature. In some respects we have taken this too far, but the case for restraint is one thing. The case for abolition is quite another.

STEPHEN MARKESON

Despite years of protests, grouse shooting is now a multimillion pound industry

Cover picture
by SARAH KING

LEGAL SPORTS

THE following are legal field sports in Britain:

Sea angling
Coarse fishing
Game fishing
Beagling
Hare coursing
Falconry
Ferreting
Fox-hunting
Mink-hunting
Shooting (such as grouse, pheasant, partridge and hare)
Wildfowling
Deer-stalking
Stag-hunting

Source
the British Field Sports Society

WHICH ORGANISATION WOULD YOU JOIN?

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS.

Est. 1889 Membership, 925,000.

Aims: "To protect the future of wild birds and the environment."

Position on field sports "We have no problem with any legal field sport."

Famous members Kenneth Clarke, Bill Oddie, Norman Lamont, Bob Holness, Joanna Lumley, Bernard Cribbins, Gillian Shephard.

BRITISH FIELD SPORTS SOCIETY.

Est. 1930. Membership, 85,000 (410,000 with affiliated clubs).

Aims: "To promote and defend all legitimate field sports."

Position on field sports. "All properly conducted legal field sports which contribute towards wildlife and countryside conservation have our support."

Famous members Lord Kimble, Lord Mancroft

LEAGUE AGAINST CRUEL SPORTS.

Est. 1924 Membership, 40,000

Aims: "To campaign for the protection of wild animals from cruelty, in particular, that cruelty associated with blood sports."

Position on field sports: "We wish to see the hunting of animals with dogs outlawed, as well as the shooting of birds and animals for sport. We are neutral on angling."

Famous members Lord Soper, Kevin MacNamara, Bill Oddie.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Est. 1824 Membership, 29,000, plus 150,000 supporters who do not have voting rights.

Aims. "To prevent cruelty and promote kindness to any animals."

Position on field sports "We are opposed to the infliction of pain and suffering on any animal in the name of sport. We do recognise that in some cases pest control is necessary, but only if it is competently carried out — and in a manner that causes the least possible pain and suffering."

Famous members the Queen, Archbishop of Canterbury

THE WILDLIFE NETWORK.

Est. 1996

Aims. "To co-operate with countryside agencies, including field sports bodies, to bring about benefits for wildlife."

Position on field sports: "There are some that we feel are unjustified. These are deer-hunting with dogs, terrier work and lurcher work on foxes. However, there is a justification for sports such as grouse shooting and fox-hunting above ground. We are attempting to take the heat out of a debate that has become polarised and to forge a middle way."

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Position on field sports. "We are completely neutral on angling and shooting."

Famous members Lisa B. Carla Lane

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Take one dustbin, a metal pipe, some wood, charcoal and water, and wait. It'll be worth it — one taste of home-smoked food and you'll be hooked

Why I'll never give up smoking

HOME MADE

Paul Heiney

A quick word about spit, before I move on to sawdust. A few weeks ago I wrote that the demise of the spit (or rotisserie, if you prefer) had robbed us of roast meat: joints cooked in the oven are "baked". A flow of letters followed, as rich and fortifying as the juice from a sirloin.

The first was from Mrs Mann of Exeter, who offered me her redundant one, and I would have been making for the West Country at this very moment had not Mrs Wilson of Ipswich (much nearer home) come up with another. Mrs Mann's offer was not wasted though, because an impassioned plea from Mrs McGrory of Gloucester moved me so much that I have put them in touch.

I have 30 other requests for spits from confused, distraught, deprived seekers after roasts. Please do not do anything silly. I have good news. A letter from Orbec in France tells me that spits are still highly regarded there, and may soon be imported into Britain. These are not high-tech kitchen gadgets for the culinary philanderer (like those Japanese bread-making machines) but serious equipment. I will save the details for another time, but Matthew Impey in his letter teases me with words like clockwork, chiming and vine twigs. Too much.

So to sawdust (or, at least, small chunks of wood) and another method of cooking which will never catch on because it requires effort and concentration. The fact that it can produce unmatchable results will not carry much sway these days.

It is the home-smoker. Mine is the size of a dustbin, with a domed lid beneath which sits a wire rack. Halfway down the bin are hooks that support a dish of water and, at the bottom, a steel basket for the fire. You could build one of these yourself out of scrap metal, but you know you never will, so get one from Don Bateman (address below) if you think you are up to the work.

I never knew chicken could taste as fine till I hot-smoked a bird. (There's a good line for when the conversation starts to flag at a tedious dinner party.) You must understand the difference between hot and cold smoking: in cold smoking, you are not cooking the food but giving it a flavour of the smoke; in hot smoking you are cooking and smoking the food at the same time.

Now follows the only published recipe ever to require wood, with the possible exception of lollipops. We could debate for hours the virtues of oak or beech, the sharpness of sycamore or the naffness of hickory. The only rule is that it must be a hardwood, because softwoods, such as pine, exude a tarry smoke, and you might as well drop your joint of meat in a bucket of pitch. Fruit woods are highly sought-after, apple especially. Chop your wood into chunks that you can hold in the palm of your hand, and soak these in water for an hour. Buy them ready-bagged from Mr Bateman if extremely idle or unsure of your skills as a lumberjack.

Light a charcoal fire in the bottom pan of the smoker and, while it is catching, hunt for a length of pipe, about three feet long and half an inch in diameter (another first in contemporary recipe ingredients). Fill the upper bowl with a couple of pints of water.

When the charcoal is white and hot, throw a few pieces of "soaked" wood on top of it; dry wood will simply create a log fire, and what you want is hot smoke, lots of it, enough to have the neighbours running with buckets of water. Then, lift the domed lid, place the chicken on the rack, close tightly and then put your hands in your pockets for at least an hour. The temptation to lift the lid is overwhelming, but keeping enough heat in the smoke is a fragile thing to achieve, and nosiness does not help.

Keep tending the fire, adding a little more charcoal to provide enough heat to keep the wood hot and smoking, but no more. You are cooking with smoke — not barbecuing. If it is flagging, take the length of pipe, place it at the heart of the fire and blow gently. Do not suck.

How long to cook for? Six hours, seven, eight? Strangely, it does not matter. Provided the bird is cooked (usual tests apply), there is no danger in giving it even an extra hour or two because — this is the clever bit — the pan of water eventually simmers and gives off steam, the flavoursome drippings from the bird fall into it, evaporate and recirculate with the smoke round the bird.

The resulting smoked chicken, equally superb eaten hot or cold, will be deeply black in parts, golden brown in others; the flesh will be the purest of white, and juicier and more concentrated in flavour than you would believe possible.

At the moment, I am hot-smoking a shoulder of lamb, which I have boned and rolled, and stuffed with a handful of mint and rosemary. The dog has gone for a long walk to get away from the fumes, my eyes are running as the smoke creeps in through the window, the children are asking if it is bonfire night. They will all be back, though, at the sound of the carving knife being honed.

Once you have tasted such food you are hooked, and the possibility of ever giving up smoking is remote.

- *Don Bateman, Homefarm Smokers, Bramble Cottage, Field Lane, Hempnall, Norfolk NR15 2PB (01508 498302).*

CHOCOLATE BOX

BELGIANS eat an average of 16lb of chocolate each a year. Suppose you want to bite off a little chunk of this chocolate mountain and buy Belgian chocolate in Britain, where should you go and what should you buy?

Fresh supplies should now be back in the shops after most of the small firms in Flanders — which manufacture the bulk of Belgium's exports — closed for an annual July holiday. Belgian retailers expect customers to be choosy: feel free to ask when the chocolates you are thinking of buying were made.

Distributors THS (01258 450200) aim to put them on the counter in Britain three days after manufacture in Belgium. Belgian chocolates do not come in flat, standardised boxes with diagrams to distinguish the strawberry cream from hazelnut whip. The retailer expects the customer to choose the size of the ballotin, or small box, and to specify what should go inside.

But most shops will sell prepacked assortments. Even a handful of Belgium's finest pack a huge punch: the chocolates will be creamy, rich and enormous. It is advisable to sit down when you eat them and not to take violent exercise afterwards. There is only one word that adequately captures the pleasure of eating a Belgian chocolate and that word is yummo.

Pralines feature prominently because they were invented by Jean Neuhaus in his Brussels shop in 1912. His descendants still run that shop and many others; their British operation can be contacted on 0181-993 7731. Their Brussels shop (in the Galeries de la Reine just off the Grand' Place) is worth dropping into simply to look at (and for the taste of the ice-cream they sell there as well).

THE other two makes of a reliable high-quality are Godiva and Leonidas, both available in Britain. The original Mr Leonidas was born in Constantinople but lived most of his life near Ghent, devoting himself to his chocolates. His firm's invasion of the British market was masterminded by Elena Lederman, still regarded as the Belgian Chocolate Queen.

All three of these chocolate makes are stocked by Natalie at 12 Sicilian Avenue, Southampton Row, London WC1 (0171-242 3227), which also arranges mail order.

In my personal tasting this time, Leonidas came out just ahead of the other two but in the past I have found little to choose between them.

GEORGE BROCK

- *Other mail order numbers: Leonidas 0171-629 1234 (Selfridges); Neuhaus 0990 504030 (Gift Box from Innovations); Godiva 0171-495 2845.*

SPOON BY DAVID MELLOR/TIMES IMAGING

new Labour
new Muesli

Look, we have no bananas: new muesli appeals to people strong on health and concerned about the world. Could there be a lesson for Tony Blair?

DIGEST

Fiona Beckett

Politics of nuts

FOR YEARS, muesli manufacturers have been battling against the hijacking of their product by the beard-and-open-toed-sandal brigade, so I suppose you have to forgive them when they get over-excited about research that suggests that their product might be relevant to the 1990s. "New man, new Labour ... now there's new muesli" gushed the introduction to the first muesli report released this week by Jordans.

What this amounted to — once you'd waded through the heartwarming story about how Jordans muesli helped explorer Ranulph Fiennes escape from a polar bear — was that muesli is no longer seen as "rabbit food". And is, er, "more diverse" than it used to be. And that "muesli people are strong on healthy eating habits, exercise regularly, are concerned about the world in which they live and are generally on the move". Which, of course, applies to new Labour people too.

Curiously, the report didn't go into the far more interesting finding — and the substance of the accompanying relaunch of the Jordans range — which is that most muesli lovers hate the dried banana. For years they've been spitting them out or pushing them politely to the side of their plate, all without a word of complaint when what they really wanted, Jordans discovered, was more dried apricots and hazelnuts. So, they have taken them out and very nice their new muesli is too.

I can't help feeling there's a message in there somewhere for Tony Blair. Maybe the absence of banana in the Labour Party is exactly what he needs to clinch the election. "New Labour — No Banana." It could be a vote-winner.

Brace yourself

WITH THE silly prices likely to be charged for the first grouse of the season next week (probably about £20 to £24 a brace) you certainly don't want to get it wrong when you cook the expensive little brutes. According to Scottish chef Nick Nairn, whose Wild Harvest series is showing on BBC2, you should brown them briefly in a pan, transfer them into a hot oven (230C, gas mark 8) for eight minutes, then rest them for another ten. "Grouse are very lean and low in fat. If you overcook them, they will dry out," he tells me.

Nairn is not overimpressed by the hype that surrounds the Glorious Twelfth. Few Scots, he says, will get a sighting of the famous bird. "Most of them get exported to the Middle East or get consumed on estates by Japanese and Americans. Grouse has a unique flavour but, at that price, it's just not worth it."

For those of you who can think of better things to do with £20, I would suggest Nairn's recipe for roast breast of pigeon with cabbage, bacon and a game sauce, which you'll find in his *Wild Harvest* book (BBC Books, £9.99).

Oo la larder

THOSE OF YOU holidaying in France this month will no doubt be tempted to load the car up with goodies on your return. Top of our list is Dijon mustard, which you can buy for as little as Fr2.50 (33p) for a 550g jar compared to 59p for 200g in Britain — though I prefer the slightly more expensive Amora brand, which in our local Intermarche costs Fr9.85 (£1.30) for just over 1kg. Jam too is a good buy — Tante Jeanne apricot at Fr11.55 (£1.52) for a 1kg jar costs just over a third of the price of Bonne Maman in Britain.

Also handy for impromptu meals are those lovely French jars of vegetables (asparagus is particularly good), small tins of pâté and tins of fish. My favourite is Capitaine Cook's *sardines au citron*, though I prefer the *maquereaux marines au vin blanc et aux aromates* of Captain Yann, his rival in the tinned-fish world.

A bit chilli

SUSSEX MAY not immediately strike you as having the ideal climate for chilli production but if you are in the Chichester area tomorrow, pop along to the Red Hot Chilli Pepper Fiesta, which is taking place at West Dean Gardens (01243 818210) and be proved wrong. Head gardener Jim Buckland grows more than 60 varieties including the Tabasco, the blistering hot Habanero and the Jalapeno which was apparently the first chilli in space. According to Mr Buckland, there will be a guided Chilli Trail, plenty of chilli dishes to taste and tips on growing your own.

Chef special

ALSO AT West Dean and other venues next month (September 24-29) is the second Chichester Food Festival, which includes demonstrations by Raymond Blanc and Mary Berry, a Cooks' Question Time and a workshop on the art of cookery writing.

The big draw, however, is the festival dinner on September 27, which will be cooked by Philip Britten and Rowley Leigh (leading London chefs at the Capitol Hotel and Kensington Place, respectively) — a treat enough in itself but the fact that it's £25 a head (about half their normal rate) makes it unmissable. Bookings are being taken now on 01243 779239. Get in quick.

Salad daze

DISREGARDING the fact that it has a better taste and texture than any other lettuce, supermarkets have obviously decided the cos lettuce is old hat. Trying to track one down for a caesar salad at the weekend I could only find Sweetheart Gems, Sweet Romaine and Baby Cos (which is presumably the soppy kind of name you have to have if you want to sell lettuce).

Incidentally, if you feel in a daze about making one from scratch, you may be relieved to know that for just 99p you can buy the Et Tu Caesar Salad Kit from Canada, which contains "a creamy caesar dressing, real parmesan cheese, multi-grain croutons and bacon-flavoured bits".

On second thoughts, I would look up the recipe in *Delia's Summer Collection.*

More food and drink in the Magazine

Sun, sand and simple spreads

FAST FOOD

SUMMER HOLIDAY DINNER
Serves ten

Sicilian chicken
Ice-cream and hot butterscotch sauce

Holiday food needs to be substantial but simple. This meal can be prepared in the morning before going out for the day and thrown in the oven when you return, sunned and more interested in relaxing with a cold beer than cooking for hungry hordes.

■ Make butterscotch sauce
Melt 50g (2oz) butter. Stir in 70g (3oz) demerara sugar and dissolve over a gentle heat. Turn up the heat, add 290ml (½ pint) double cream and boil for five minutes to get a thick, smooth sauce. Stir in 1tsp vanilla essence.

If making this in the morning before going out, let it cool and refrigerate.

■ Prepare Sicilian chicken
De-seed five red peppers (or get a mixture of colours — red, green, orange and yellow). Cut into quarters and put in a food processor bowl with 70g (3oz) tomato paste and three cloves of garlic.

Whizz until the peppers and garlic have been chopped into small pieces. Put into a large baking dish or tray. Scatter over 3tbs capers. Season with salt, pepper and ½tbs white sugar. Put ten boned chicken breasts on top of the peppers.

■ Cook chicken, potatoes and peas
Pre-heat the oven to 190C/375F/Gas mark 5.

Open beer and lemonade for guests.

An hour before you want to eat, put ten baking potatoes into the oven. Put the chicken in the oven 15 minutes later.

Ten minutes before you want to eat, bring a large pan of water to the boil. Put in 900g (2lb) frozen peas. Bring back to the boil and simmer for three minutes. Drain and season with salt and pepper.

Serve the chicken with the sweet/sour pepper sauce, peas and baked potatoes with dollops of butter.

■ Serve ice-cream and butterscotch sauce
While everyone helps themselves to vanilla ice-cream, heat up the sauce and then pour it onto the ice-cream from a jug or, if holiday informality reigns, straight from the saucepan.

HATTIE ELLIS

Shopping List

Fruit and vegetables
5 peppers (red or a mixture)
3 cloves garlic
10 baking potatoes
900g (2lb) frozen peas

Store cupboard
70g (3oz) demerara sugar
1tsp vanilla essence
70g (3oz) tomato paste
3tbs capers
½tbs white sugar

Dairy
50g (2oz) butter
290ml (½ pint double cream)
2 litres vanilla ice-cream

Meat
10 boned chicken breasts

Drink
beer
lemonade

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How a romantic accident started one of the fastest-growing and most popular breeds of cat in Britain

A catastrophe that turned into a feline triumph

A delightful new breed of cat that is gaining popularity fast, both as a pet and on the show bench, can trace its pedigree back to a fateful accident on September 11, 1981, at the home of Baroness Miranda von Kirchberg in London.

The baroness, a breeder of Russian blue and Burmese cats, had acquired a beautiful, long-haired chinchilla stud named Jemari Sanquist to start a breeding programme with a British silver tabby.

Her Burmese female, Bambino Lilac Fabergé, came into season and was shut in the study to await her visit to a stud. But Sanquist's romantic instincts were stirred and he cried outside the study door until the housekeeper obligingly let him in.

"When she told me what she'd done I ran upstairs and found each of them looking out of separate windows as if they had not even been introduced," the baroness says. "I was relieved, and sent Fabergé off to mate with a Burmese champion. But when the kittens were born they were not Burmese, but the most delightful silver kittens you can imagine."

The new breed was named Burmilla: a combination of "Burmese" and "chinchilla". "It should really have been Chin-ese, but that did not work so well," the baroness says.

"To begin with I thought it was a joke, just one of those things. Then I began to realise that these kittens were very special. They were stunningly beautiful, with fur that stood out like moleskin, and had huge green eyes. They were the most beautiful animals I had ever seen.

"They were highly intelligent, loving, and had bright, attractive personalities. Cross-breeding had given them hybrid health and vigour, and their disposition, tempered by the chinchilla, was a lot softer, sweeter and less assertive than the Burmese. This was almost the ideal cat. Everyone who came to the house admired them, and soon people were bringing Burmese queens to mate with Sanquist."

The baroness then realised that other leading cat breeds have a silver range — an additional range of coat colours where the undercoat is white, but the ends of the hairs look as if they have been dipped in a different colour. For example, Oriental cats are derived from Siamese cats, and look like them except that they have coat patterns that include tabby and silver.

Sanquist's undercoat was white, but the tips of his hairs were black, and those first kittens had black-tipped coats. Baroness von Kirchberg kept a female, Astahazy Galatea, and a mating between Sanquist and Fabergé's sister produced a male kitten. When he was of age, he was mated to Galatea to ensure that there were no unexpected gene defects or unwanted throwbacks.

Four other similar test matings between closely related cats were successfully carried out. Then a breeding programme was started by mating Galatea to an unrelated Burmese male.

To retain the lithe Burmese body type, and to bring new ancestral lines into the programme, cats were frequently crossed back to Burmese.

Later, the name Burmilla was used to describe only the cats with silver or shaded coats. These often have soft stripes on limbs and tail, pink noses, sharply defined eyes and the broken letter "M" (referred to as a scarab) on the forehead. They can exhibit the full range of tabby markings (ticked, classic, mackerel or spotted). New colours emerged: brown, blue, chocolate, lilac, red, cream and, later, caramel and apricot.

Because they were being bred back to Burmese, cats with less or no shading were being born, so the name Asian was adopted as the generic term to cover both Burmillas and other coat patterns that naturally occurred within the breed, as well as a semi long-haired variation, the Tiffanie. Altogether, there are 650 different coats.

The Burmilla-Asian Association, which was formed to further the breed, now has nearly 200 members. In 1990, the association achieved its aim of gaining breed recognition from the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (GCCF), the cat's equivalent of the Kennel Club.

Then a second line of Burmillas was developed by Therese Clarke, a friend of the baroness, who started her own breeding programme using Gemma, a kitten from the baroness's first litter, and allying with the newer Cat Association of Britain, rather than the GCCF.

In 1984, Mrs Clarke founded the Burmilla Cat Club, breeding only Burmillas, and this year a group has splintered away from the Burmilla-Asian Association to form a separate Asian club.

The Burmillas and Asian tabbies have won so many honours — including prizes for best foreign adult at the National Cat Show in December, 1994, and at the Short Haired Cats Society show in 1995, and best of the provisional breeds (neuter) at the Supreme show in 1995 — that this week the Burmilla-Asian Association has applied to the GCCF for championship status. If granted, one could even become a grand champion in the show season beginning next June.

As pets, the cats gather fans for their beauty and their bright, humorous characters. They grace the homes of Johnny Morris, the actress Maria Aitken, the artist Tom Merrifield and the MP Harriet Harman. And they have appeared in various advertising campaigns: Virgin Records used one of the baroness's cats, Astahazy Zarzuela, in a Christmas campaign.

Sarndra Devereux, a breeder in Warrington, Cheshire, and the first probationer show judge of Asians, dotes on them. "They're very much a designer cat, being charming and playful, more active than chinchillas, but less bombastic than Burmese," she says. "We breed for temperament and we're the first club ever to include that as part of our standard for the show bench. An aggressive temperament is not allowed."

Anne Rickson, a senior GCCF show judge, says: "Asians are beautiful cats. Like the Burmese, they want plenty of affection, because they're going to give you a lot. That's the idea of a cat. They're inquisitive and get into all sorts of scrapes. And they are so popular that they are probably the fastest-growing new breed."

CHRISTINE WEBB

- *Burmilla-Asian Association (01777 248562): Naomi Johnson, secretary, can supply names of local breeders. Committee member Claire Lovell (01392 833341) keeps a list of available and expected kittens.*
- *Burmilla Cat Club: Therese Clarke, 01235 766543.*

The green-eyed, brown-tipped silver Burmilla Astahazy Zarzuela, bred by Baroness Miranda von Kirchberg. Picture: Animals Unlimited

Little grebes are good divers and swimmers

Heads down for dinner

Feather Report

OUT ON the pond two chicks with striped heads were floating about. Suddenly a little grebe surfaced, and they rushed towards it across the water with sharp, pleading cries. Both got a bit of the food their parent had brought up. Then it disappeared again.

Neither they nor I knew where it would come up next, but they were the first to spot it when it did, instantly launching into their cries again and streaking away towards it.

Further out in the pond, similar calls were coming from some young great-crested grebes. But these were much older then the grebe chicks: they were already large, silvery birds with long, striped necks.

The adult little grebe kept coming up with food for its youngsters, and I had some good views of it. Often, you only hear them, making their trilling mating calls in spring among low reeds at the edge of the water.

LITTLE GREBES are very different to the elegant great-crested grebes. They are dumpy little things, with rear parts that rise to a point and are then cut off by a completely straight line at the back. Sometimes they fluff these hind parts out. But they are quite pretty in summer, with dark-brown bodies, rich orange-chestnut cheeks and throat, and a pale-green spot at the base of the beak. They acquire this plumage by a spring moult, and in the autumn revert to a paler, drabber look.

Generally, grebes lay four eggs, in a floating nest of weeds. They cover the eggs when leaving them to make them less conspicuous, but the nests are often flooded, or the eggs washed overboard by a wave from a passing boat. The chicks are preyed on by pike.

THE CHICKS will soon start diving. Grebes have their legs set well back on their bodies, and their toes are lobed, to enable them to swim powerfully and swiftly under the water. But they rarely come ashore because they walk so clumsily.

They will be around all the winter, if the weather is mild, but if the pond ices over they will move across to the river, or even go down to sea.

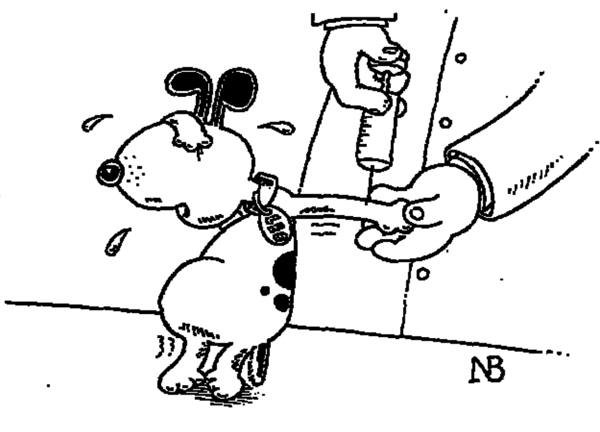
Their latest enemies are their own cousins, the great-crested grebes. As new buildings and water sports put pressure on the larger species, they are beginning to colonise smaller ponds — and where they compete with little grebes for fish, they normally win.

DERWENT MAY

- **What's about:** *Birders — watch out for family parties of kestrels; also willow warblers and chiffchaffs in gardens. Twitchers — white-winged black tern, Abberton Reservoir, Essex; pectoral sandpiper, Titchwell, Norfolk. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222 (40p a min cheap rate, 50p other times).*

A Vet Writes…

Time to ease rabies ban?



Rabies hit the headlines recently when a rabid bat arrived at the port of Newhaven, Sussex, and bit two women trying to catch it. The bat died, but otherwise the story has a happy ending. Someone was far-sighted enough to suspect rabies and the bitten victims received immediate preventive treatment. And all is well.

Britain has been free of rabies since 1922, except for two cases in 1969 and 1970 in imported dogs shortly after they were released from quarantine. Two other dogs have developed rabies while in quarantine; one, in 1983, came from America, the other, in 1990, from Zambia.

Rabies is being controlled throughout Europe and it may be eradicated by the time we celebrate the millennium. But the disease is endemic in other parts of the world. In India, 30,000 people die from rabies each year.

Strict quarantine regulations have kept Britain rabies-free but now there are moves to abolish quarantine. It is said to have outlived its usefulness and that six months' incarceration causes unnecessary distress to pets.

The suggestion is that dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies and then be blood-tested to ensure the vaccine has "taken". Pet passports and microchips would identify those dogs and cats which could be admitted because their owners had complied with the rules.

In a perfect world this would work, but relatively few pets are properly identified, and experiences with other animals brought into this country do not inspire confidence in tests and health certificates.

Warble fly and brucella were eradicated in Britain at considerable expense only to reappear in imported cattle. A horse arrived with certificates saying it had passed a blood-test, but months later it emerged that the blood sample came from a different horse.

I think it would be premature to abolish quarantine in its entirety, though some relaxation of the rules makes sense, including exempting small pets such as hamsters, rabbits and guinea pigs. These are susceptible to rabies but have never been known to spread it. They're known as "end hosts" — the same as horses, cattle, pigs and sheep, which can move into Britain without six months in quarantine.

And perhaps dogs and cats from Australia and New Zealand, which are free from rabies, could be allowed in. But dogs or cats coming from countries which still have rabies continue to present a risk. Let's make haste very slowly.

JAMES ALLCOCK

Peacocks can make excellent guard 'dogs' for your home and cost little a week to maintain

Strutting their stuff — the pride of the back garden

Those of you seeking a novel and colourful addition to the garden might consider having a peacock or peahen roaming the lawn. Anthony Jones, who breeds and sells ornamental birds at his home in East Sussex, says that peafowl are growing in popularity, but insists that all prospective buyers heed his advice.

"It's costs very little to keep these birds and to feed them correctly," says Mr Jones, who feeds his peafowl on wheat and maize meal, turkey-grass pellets and, as an occasional treat, digestive biscuits.

His weekly outlay to feed one bird is about 50p. But this figure should be multiplied by at least three because, Mr Jones says, peafowl should be kept in threes. To buy three 18-month-old peafowl — one male and two females — you can expect to pay between £170 and £190. Breeding birds can cost between £200 and £225.

There are also veterinary costs to be considered. Peafowl are part of the pheasant family and therefore classified as fowl, so Mr Jones advises using an agricultural vet rather than a small animals vet. Regulations covering the keeping of birds permit the blue, emerald and white peafowl to be kept as free-range pets. The rarer green peafowl, however, must be ringed, numbered and kept in an aviary.

Anyone considering keeping peafowl in their garden might be put off by reports of neighbours being disturbed by the scream of the birds. But Mr Jones disputes that peafowl are any noisier than other birds. "They make noise only when there is impending danger — and for this reason they make good guard 'dogs'."

Homing the peafowl is essential if they are not to wander off or fly away. The process involves keeping the birds in a building, such as a shed or purpose-built coop, from where they can see the area in which they are to live. They can also grow to know and trust the new owner who feeds and waters them. After about four or five weeks, you can let them come and go as they please. A garden measuring about 100ft by 30ft will suffice. There are no special nets or fences needed in a garden when peacocks strut their stuff, though Mr Jones has erected a fox fence in his garden.

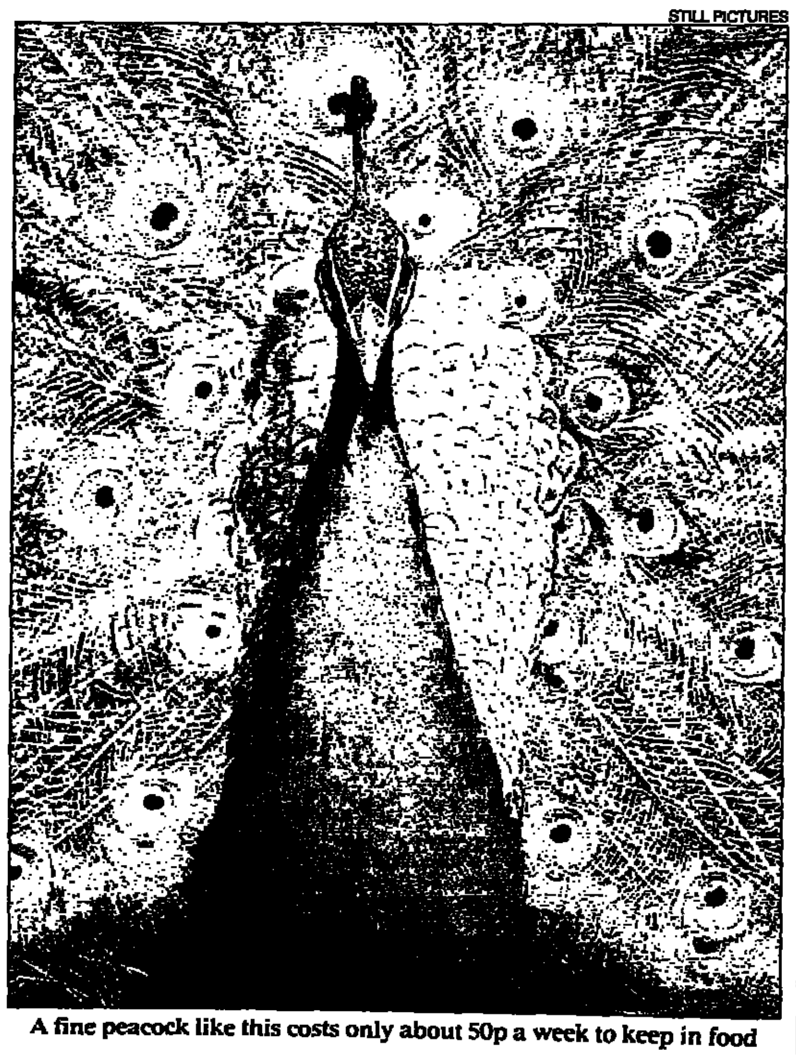
If you fancy strutting *your* stuff, he will supply birds to any part of the country, provided buyers convince him they will look after them properly.

And don't even think of asking him to supply a bird for the table. "I won't sell them for their meat. I breed them only for their beauty," he says. And in his voice you can hear that he is as proud as a, er…

BRENDAN MARTIN

- *Anthony Jones, 01323 847137.*

STILL PICTURES



A fine peacock like this costs only about 50p a week to keep in food

KEN KING

Pet scorpions need to be fed three live crickets a week

Anyone for cricket?

GRUESOME is the word some use to describe scorpions. But they are "rather beautiful in their own way", says Virginia Cheeseman, an expert. "They eat only live food, and one will probably devour about three crickets a week. If you put too many scorpions in the tank at one time lots of crickets running around could irritate them." Not a lot of fun for the crickets, either. For a care sheet, phone 0181-572 0414.

Purr-suasive

AFTER the widget which produces frothy draught beer in cans comes the tin of cat food with a built-in purr. It's a technical first for Spiller's and the sales promotion people probably voted themselves a bonus for coming up with the name: Purrfect. If you buy a tin and it purrs on being opened there's a free holiday to be had. Information: 0171-404 5575.

PET NEWS

Just the job

PET owners interested in working with animals can get a fact sheet listing opportunities, including those for veterinary nurses, pet trainers, beauticians, behaviourists, pet-shop assistants, greyhound handlers and mobility instructors working with guide dogs. For the fact sheet, write to or phone the National Canine Defence League, 17 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7LT (0171-837 0006).

Mice mesh

AN AIR of desperation in this letter from Chris Glanfield, of Kent, in the magazine *Cage & Aviary Birds*: "Your expert implies that a one inch by half-inch mesh would keep mice out of an aviary. This is not correct. I have seen adult field mice and house mice squeeze through half-inch square mesh. The smallest mesh size that would do the job is three-eighths of an inch, but I don't know where you can buy it." Can anyone help?

Ferret swipe

A PET writer's lot is not a happy one. Almost anything they write is bound to upset someone. The *Countryman's Weekly* carries a letter from Donna Matthews, of Devon, expressing "absolute disgust" at a piece in this column (Pet News, July 13) on designer ferrets. (There is a chap who knows how to breed them to the colour of your choice.) Ms Matthews says: "These poor animals will be destined for the streets of Knightsbridge, where the rich and bored are continually on the look out for something new to make their friends envious. These ferrets will be purchased on a whim and discarded to roam the streets, far away from their natural environment. Whoever is exploiting the ferret should be stopped as soon as possible." Expect a quick reply from the breeder, but I imagine that the rich of Knightsbridge may be far too bored to respond.

JACK CROSSLEY

Used sparingly, two-tone plants can make a welcome sight, says **Stephen Anderton**

Variegations on a highlight theme

Sensing the onset of Pavement Rage during the London Tube strike, I escaped into the relative peace of a bookshop and was lucky enough to pick up a copy of Susan Condor's *Variegated Plants* (now out of print). Never a bad idea, I thought, to have an *aide-mémoire* for such things. Variegated plants are, for me, things used to make highlights here and there in the garden when the main planting scheme needs a lift, and a catalogue of such possibilities is useful.

The previous weekend I had been driving south through Lamberhurst in Kent and was struck by a planting of the golden *Choisya* 'Sundance'. Several had been planted in a row behind a white picket fence and the bright metallic yellow foliage was squeezing its way through the uprights to make a long splash of yellow on the street. I am not especially fond of the plant; it is so bright in sun that it makes more of a distraction than an accent. But here, planted as much for the street as for the individual garden, it worked wonders.

This is probably the best way to use variegated plants in gardens: as highlights to the greater scheme.

Variegated plant groupies I know are sometimes happy to plant variegation next to variegation for ever, and be pleased with the result. But that can work against the plants themselves: so often the complexity of the pattern of variegation on a leaf distracts from its shape and texture. Think of the green gloss and curve of an ordinary cherry laurel leaf, and then compare the variegated cream-on-lime form, 'Variegata', which looks as if someone couldn't be bothered to put it away before emulsioning the kitchen. Instead of the 3-D pattern of the foliage itself, a more telling pattern of light and shade is imposed over the surface of the leaves. The plant can cease to be a collection of good leaves, and more a creamy or yellowy block in the garden. There's nothing wrong with that, of course, but it needs to be used sparingly: two dozen such prima donnas do not a choir make.

I was pleased to see mentioned in *Variegated Plants* a favourite lilac, *Syringa emodi* 'Variegata'. This makes a large, upright bush of 7ft-10ft high, with whitish flowers and a less-than-pleasant perfume. But its foliage is excellent. Broadly speaking, and from a distance, it is limey yellow, but closer to there is a distinct darker green irregular patch on the surface of the leaf. The leaves, when grown well, can be as much as 8in long, and the effect is almost of a hosta with shrubby tendencies.

Condor takes some trouble to deal with hostas, identifying those which, among the variegated kinds, keep their colour all season, those which lose it as the season progresses, and those which only develop it by mid-season. It is a useful lesson if you have some subtle plant association in mind which relies on the variegation of hostas. *Hosta fortunei* var. *albopicta*, for instance, starts the season yellow and green, but ends it two shades of pale green. 'Gold Standard' gradually develops a yellow leaf edged in green as the season unfolds.

WEEKEND TIPS

- **To encourage Christmas cacti to flower, withhold water for a month and put the pot in a shady place to rest. Some shrivelling may occur.**
- **Ensure that border phlox have plenty of water to keep blooming into September; *drought makes them more* prone to mildew.**
- **Lift shallots and autumn-sown onions when the foliage has faded. Earth-up celery and potatoes and keep them well watered.**
- **Plant 2in-3in cuttings of pinks, pansies and violas in very sandy compost.**
- **Move outdoor pots into *the shade during brief* holidays, and stand them in large saucers of water.**

A variegated plant fashionable in Victorian conservatories is the Japanese leopard plant *Ligularia tussilaginea* 'Aureomaculata', or *Farfugium japonicum* 'Aureomaculatum' as the gardener's bible, *The Plant Finder*, now correctly has it. A few years ago you rarely saw it, except in a shady Mediterranean courtyard garden in its unvariegated form, and it is absent from a whole generation of gardening books, even under its old name, senecio. In the last year or two, however, it has reappeared in many gardens as a foliage plant, put out in pots for the summer, because it is not particularly hardy.

A photograph of the leopard plant in *Variegated Plants* reminded me why I am never comfortable with this plant. It has that variously spotted kind of variegation, which looks as if there has been a ghastly accident with the gramoxone. Pale yellow splodges are scattered irregularly over the whole plate-sized leaf, some half-on-half-off the edge, like something you would see under a microscope, the splodges swimming around as a silent incurable menace. Placed in a damp, shady conservatory by a water basin lots of it might be deliciously risky, but in the hard light of day I have to look the other way. Try it and see what you think.

RON CHAPMAN

Hosta fortunei 'Gold Standard' develops a yellow leaf edged with green

Ligularia generally likes cool moist roots, so in a pot it needs lots of water and a shady position. In a border, it needs winter protection. Slugs love a ligularia, but can you imagine the leopard plant with holes as well as spots? Slugs need to be dealt with in advance, because the plant does not produce large numbers of leaves during the year. If you forget, every last one will remind you all season.

Not that I have anything against variegated plants. Think of the poise and tiered delicacy of *Cornus controversa* 'Variegata', or the smart stripes of so many variegated irises and grasses. And the gold or cream splashed ivies, hollies and elaeagnus.

Right now, however, I am trying to kill a patch of *Vinca major*, which lives under my fence and sashays between my neighbour's garden and mine, where it is unwanted. It may be the variegated form, but it is as tough as old boots, and refuses to die.

Gardens to visit, page 13

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q **The Laburnum alpinum I thought I had *planted has produced its* first flowers — short racemes of a delicate pink. I *gather the* tree is, in fact, a chimaera, *Laburnocytisus adamii*. Can I propagate *from it?*** — T. Lock, Brighton, East Sussex.

A I wonder... *Laburnocytisus adamii* was first produced in the 1820s by grafting the dwarf purple-broom *Cytisus purpureus* on to a *Laburnum anagyroides*. The result was a tree, not a bush, which bears, rather patchily, flowers of both parents. You could certainly graft your tree on to laburnum seedlings to propagate it (I have never grown it and am unsure if it is capable of setting seed). I would be pleased to hear the result but I wonder whether — as you say the tree bears delicate pink flowers rather than some pinkish and some yellow — it may be a different tree altogether. Compare your plant with the rose acacia *Robinia hispida*.

Q **Our gooseberry bushes are looking poorly, with small brownish *spots on the leaves*. Can you help?** — Mr and Mrs A.G. Caton, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

A Your bushes have currant leaf spot, which affects black and red currants, too. The best remedy is to clear up and burn all affected fallen leaves. Spraying (with thiophanate-methyl) can be done now, and again through next season, pausing a month before the fruit is ripe, and continuing again after picking.

Q **Anticipating another *drought this summer*, I applied a wood-chip mulch to my mixed border in March. Now I hear that this material will rob the soil of nitrogen for years to *come*. If this is true, how can I rectify the situation to ensure continuing fertility?** — E. Roberts, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

A You can relax. A wood-chip mulch on of a border does use some nitrogen from the soil as it breaks down, but much less than if it were dug into the soil. If you see signs of poor fertility, you should lightly dress the border in spring with sulphate of ammonia. In the meantime, your border will gain far more from conserved moisture than it will lose from infertility.

● *Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend*, The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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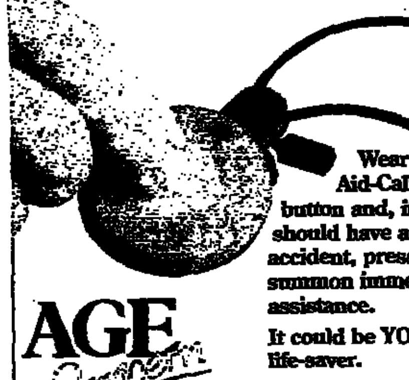

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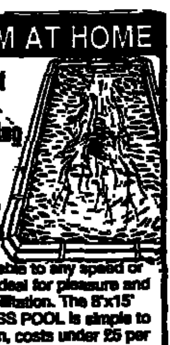

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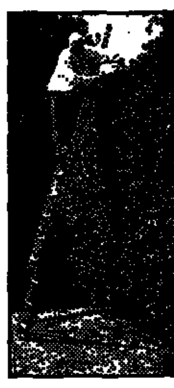
HOMES & GARDENS



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TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

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fig A

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fig B

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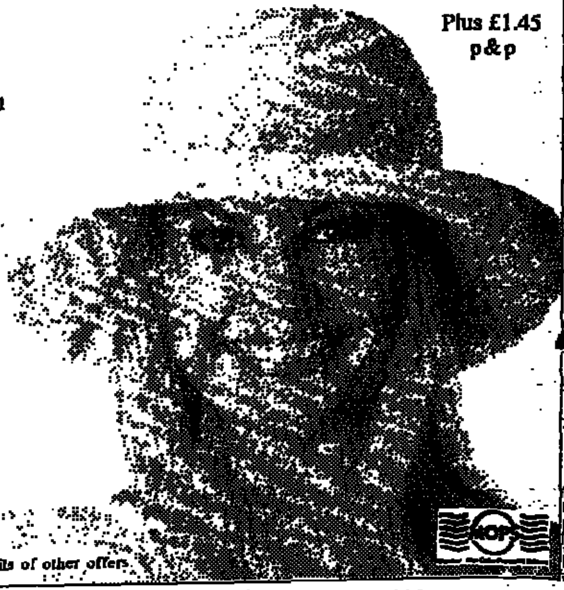

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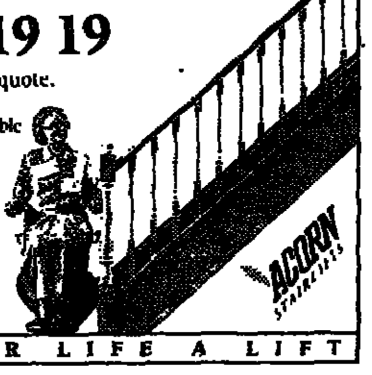

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The fall of communism and the collapse of the Soviet Union has meant for the first time in nearly eighty years the people of Russia are free to travel, and can now trade with the rest of the world. During those dark days of repressive communist rule the only way the average Russians had of preserving their family wealth was to hoard anything precious, such as jewellery, diamonds, works of art, and of course, the most precious of metals, Gold.

From a private holding, now being made available to collectors and investors in the U.K. and western Europe, these are original gold Five Rouble coins of Tsar Nicholas II, minted between 1897 and 1911. Each bearing the head of the ill-fated Tsar who along with his family died at the hands of the Bolsheviks during the 1917 revolution, ending 300 years of the Romanoff dynasty. Hidden away for nearly a century, each coin weighs 4.3013 grams of .900 fine gold and they are also in remarkably well-preserved nice condition.

When you consider the price the Royal Mint charges for a British new-issue half-sovereign, these represent outstanding value. Somewhat heavier than a half-sovereign and nearly 100 years old, these historic gems are available to collectors at a distribution price of only £79.50 each which includes P&P.

I've applied for three and asked for different dates, I certainly don't want to miss out on including some genuine gold from old Imperial Russia in my collection. You should try your luck too, who knows? You may be one of the lucky ones who gets to own some original Tsarist gold.

You should apply in writing stating the number you would like along with your name, address and postcode to the Gold & Silver Bureau at 3 Sevenways, Ilford, Essex IG2-6XH. If you are lucky enough to be allocated any, it will have been well worth the effort.

You can also apply over the telephone but you may have to endure a few engaged tones, as demand for these coins is expected to be high. Call them on Freephone (0800) 614686, even on a Sunday, and you may find out instantly whether your application will be successful. Don't send any payment initially, you will be notified if you are one of the fortunate few whose application has been successful.

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By JOANNE GLOVER

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Now, as a service to the public, WWF UK (World Wide Fund For Nature) has produced its own plain language guide to making a will: It explains:

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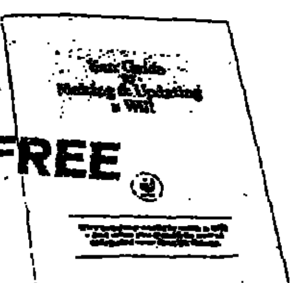

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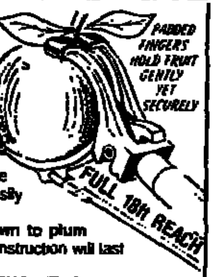

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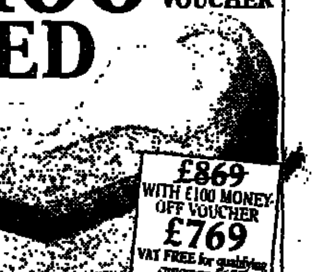

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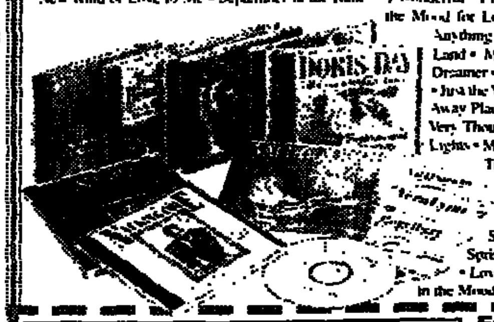

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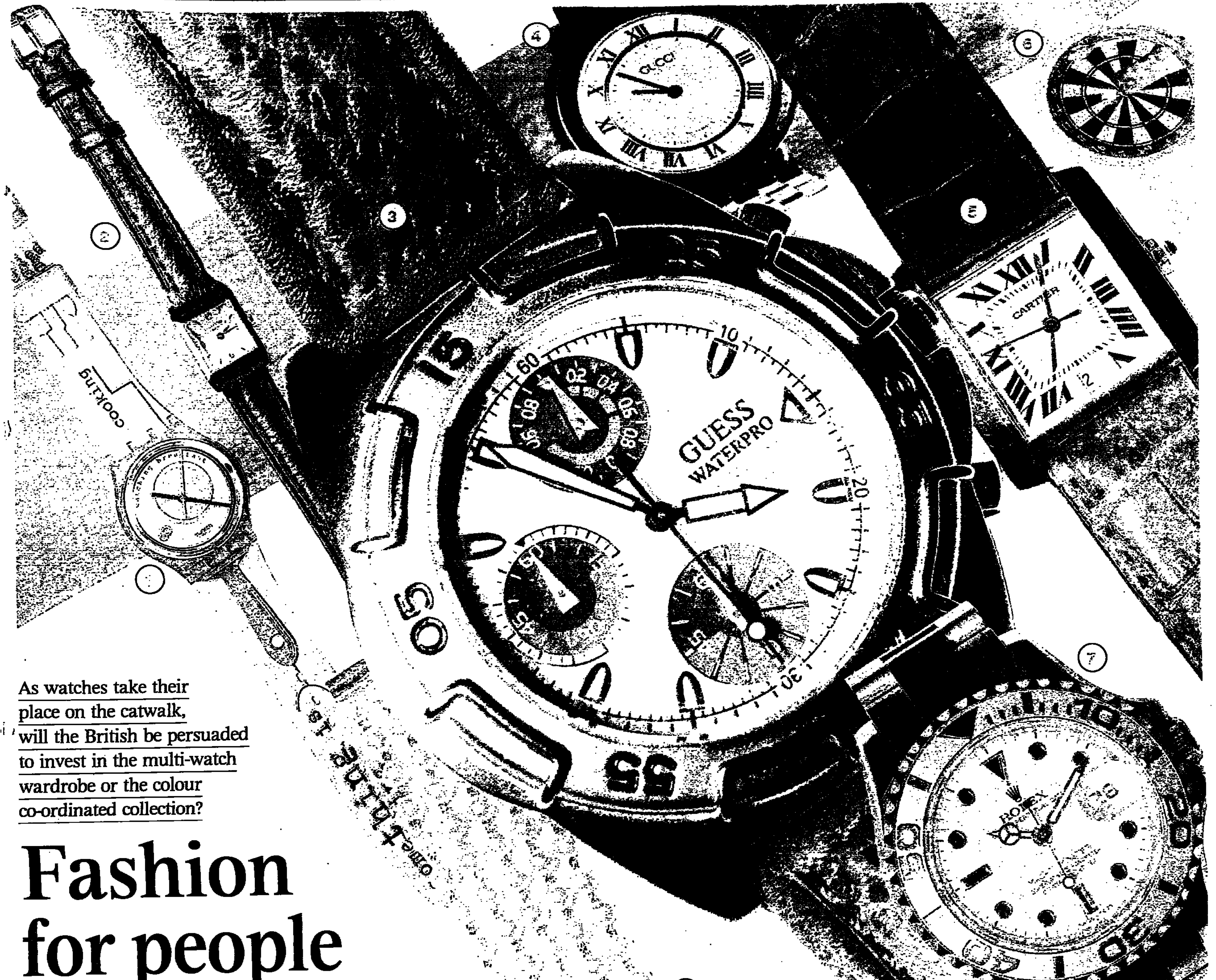
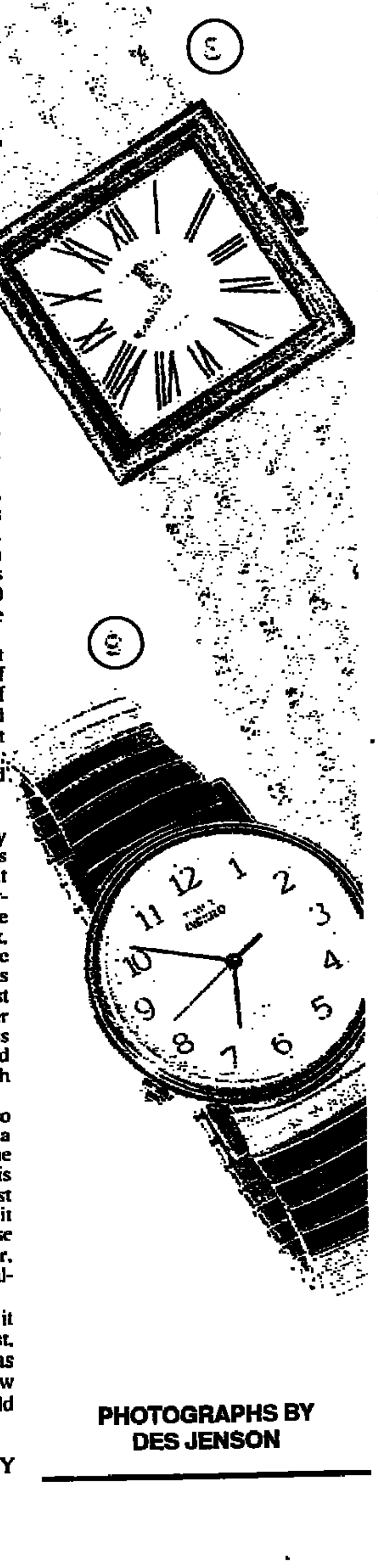


As watches take their place on the catwalk, will the British be persuaded to invest in the multi-watch wardrobe or the colour co-ordinated collection?

Fashion for people with time on their hands



Italians own an average of five or six watches each, while Britons have a paltry 1.2. This figure alone makes the British ripe for targeting by continental watchmakers. But an even bigger factor, the fashion industry, means that a new generation of watches is destined to be the must-have accessory of the late 1990s. The pressure to colour co-ordinate or wear dress watches in the evening is opening up a whole new market. And, like the perfume industry, which exploded in the early 1990s when all the big designers launched their own scents, the arrival of Gucci, Chanel and Guess in the watch world is likely to be just the beginning.

All this, of course, is good news for customers: there is more choice and prices have become more competitive. Even Gucci's prices are considered reasonable in the market place — starting at £200 — as Steve Ramsey, the managing director, says: "While we obviously want to shift prices up, we have a business to run and we are not stupid. We have to introduce increases gradually as we build up the heritage and reputation of the brand."

Traditional watch manufacturers, such as the American-owned company Timex, are not daft either. Capitalising on the fashionable interest in watches, Timex has relaunched the 1959 Mercury Classic and given it a modern spin by announcing that it is "the watch that New York fashion editors are wearing". At £27.50, many did not need the added endorsement of Sharon Stone to buy one. In 1995, Timex's sales rose by 30 per cent in the UK.

The American jeans manufacturer Guess has rolled out its new watch collection this year with multifunctional watch faces and dials measuring time to the hundredth of a second. With natty watch straps in yellow, blue and red, Guess aims to persuade the British male aged 18-30 to part with £100 and colour co-ordinate his wardrobe.

The British have traditionally kept their noses out of the watch business, leaving it to the Swiss and Japanese. But as watches come down the catwalk, designers such as Katharine Hamnett are launching their own ranges. Her watches for women eschew chunky masculine designs and offer an alternative to the American idea of style.

Hamnett was inspired by an elegant gold watch given to her at 18 by her grandmother. Like many old watches, it suffered the modern fate of being dropped in the bath, ensuring that she designed a waterproof range. The prices (from £190) are reasonable for designer wear because, Hamnett says, "I'm terribly mean".

Swatch, which made plastic famous and overturned the whole industry by making Swiss watches affordable (from around £25), has also got the designer bug. In recent months, it has launched a metal range, Swatch Irony, with a collection of 12 models in stainless steel casings. This prolific manufacturer launches 240 new models every year, including two limited edition specials.

Carl Oliver, the managing director, says the Vivienne Westwood Orb was one of the most popular in Britain. When you consider that one Swatch in Italy fetched £20,000 at auction, it is easy to understand why the 100,000 members of the collectors' club see their £25 buys as an investment.

Buying watches as an investment leads you out of the faddish world of designers and into the hushed halls of jewellery emporiums. Cartier and Rolex, for example, use a different language to describe their watches, preferring words such as classic and traditional to fashionable and stylish.

Rolex was understandably more keen to talk about its new range than to comment on investment value. "Yesterday's Rolex is of importance in antique watch sales," John Hunt, of Rolex, says. Much of Rolex's £10,000 price tags can be attributed to the precious stones and 18-carat gold used. The most popular seller is the men's Oyster Datejust at £1,505, but the Swiss company continues to innovate and has produced the only diving watch that works to a depth of 4,000ft.

Cartier, whose watches are also manufactured in Switzerland, has a very different history to Rolex. The company is primarily a jeweller and is proud of its royal connections. Last April, at the Geneva watch fair, it launched the new Tank Française range, which the managing director, Arnaud Bamberger, describes as "already a classic".

With prices starting from £2,325, it makes sense that Cartier, unlike most, offers a lifetime guarantee though, as Mr Bamberger says, "if you throw your watch out of the window I would be a little upset".

Emma Mahony

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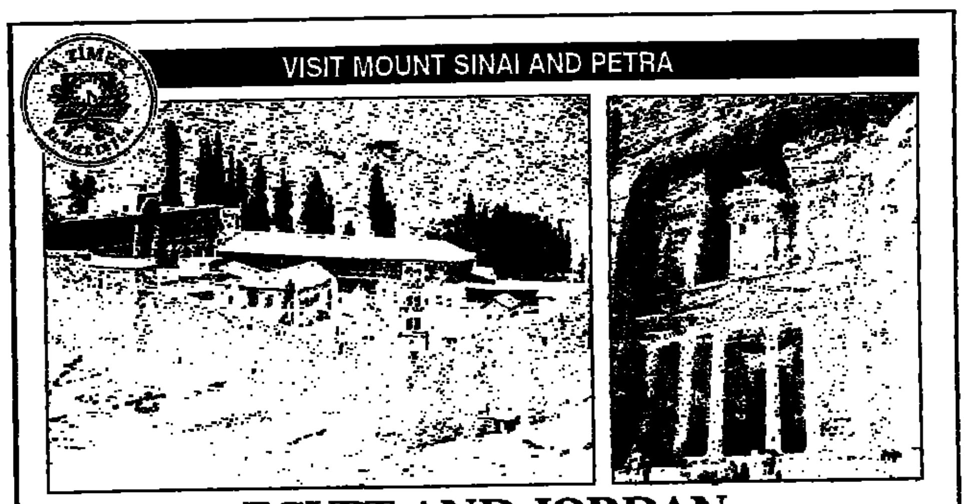

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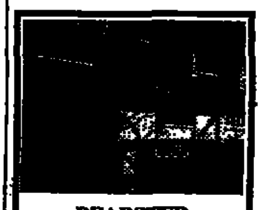

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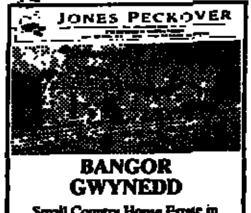

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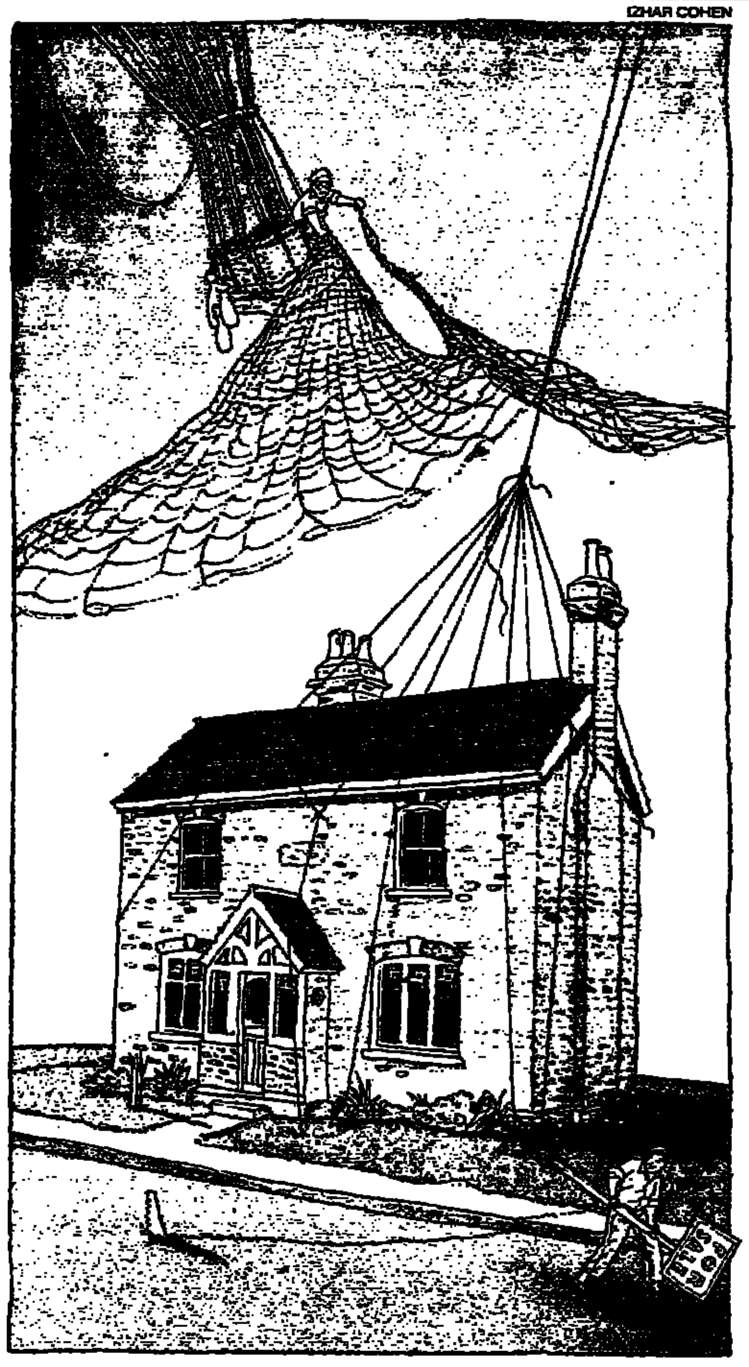
Survive the buyer's minefield

Cheryl Taylor offers tips on how to equip yourself for a competitive property market



Pity the poor buyer. With the property market buzzing in many areas of the country there is such demand for desirable houses that often there are five or more parties competing for the same property, with prices shooting up to a third over guide prices.

As if this were not enough, it is fiendishly difficult to value properties accurately. "Prices are not fixed by a property's inherent value, but more by what someone is prepared to pay — which can be more than anyone could possibly have anticipated," says Paul Greenwood, of property seekers Stacks Relocation.

Estate agents, anxious for the best price for their clients, are using a range of methods to achieve this aim. What can the buyer do when caught in serious competition for a house? Here are some tips — from professional buying agents — on how to avoid the traps.

OFFERS

ESTATE agents often pitch guide prices low to stimulate competition. An early "cut out" bid, at least 10 per cent over the guide, may be sufficiently attractive to persuade the vendor to accept your offer, rather than wait to see what else comes along.

TELEPHONE AUCTION

AN EFFECTIVE method of speeding up a process that can sometimes take days or weeks, if there are several interested buyers. The agent fixes a time for the auction and takes a contact number from interested parties. He will then give all of them an opportunity to outbid each other until the top price is achieved.

All bids are subject to contract. You may want a survey carried out before bidding, but until exchange of contracts the house is not legally yours. This method of purchase is only acceptable if you are dealing with a reputable selling agent. Vendors do not always sell to the highest bidder. There are other considerations, such as a purchaser's cash position and the time period needed to complete the deal. Make yourself a "preferred" buyer by arranging finance in advance, making contact with solicitors, moving fast and being amenable over completion dates.

FORMAL TENDER

THIS method of sale, often used for commercial property, is sometimes used for residential. It is similar to sealed bids, but it is not subject to contract. All legal inquiries and surveys must be carried out in advance. If your bid is accepted, you are legally bound to buy.

From the start of the marketing campaign there will be a tender document attached to the details. The tender, or bid, and a 10 per cent deposit must be placed with a specified lawyer on a given date. If your bid is not successful, your deposit will be returned.

SEALED BIDS

THIS IS another non-legally binding method for an estate agent to achieve the best price, subject to contract. The agent will send a letter to all interested parties outlining the rules. Buyers will be instructed to submit their best offer by a specified date and time, stating how they plan to finance the purchase, and any conditions, such as subject to survey.

Purchasers will be given a date by which they must exchange contracts. References may be requested, from banks, lawyers or building societies. The agent is under no obligation to accept the highest, or indeed any bid.

The danger is that because the buyer does not know what competing buyers are bidding, he may pay over the odds to secure the property. Find out how much other similar properties in the same area are fetching, and try to ascertain the level of interest in the property.

Pay what you feel comfortable with, and don't go beyond. Deliver the bid by hand, five minutes before the deadline. It should be marked on the outside with the property name and instructions not to be opened until the deadline. Put in a bid slightly above the round number — if £200,000 is your best offer, bid £201,503 — to avoid a tie, and state as few conditions as possible.

AUCTION

FOR a property that is likely to create a lot of interest, an auction is a popular option. The guide price will normally be fixed at or above the auctioneer's anticipated reserve price, the figure below which he is not allowed to sell under the hammer.

Because you will only ever bid one increment more than the previous bidder, there is never the fear that you are overpaying. However, because they must legally complete a sale once it is agreed, buyers should be careful when attending auctions. It is not possible to make a bid conditional on having surveys carried out to inspect a property for faults, or to have your solicitors discover any legal problems later on.

Bidders must be certain they can raise the cash. They cannot keep the seller hanging on while they try to sell an existing property — or negotiate a loan. If you are looking to buy a house in this manner, check in advance how much you can borrow.

Find out what price levels are being achieved for the type of property you are interested in — study auction catalogues carefully, go to a few auctions and get a feel for the bidding. Don't get carried away with the bidding — and don't bid for the wrong lot. If you do you will still be legally obliged to pay for it.

Once the hammer is down, a sale is just as legally binding on a seller as on a buyer. The buyer must then hand over a cheque to the auctioneer for 10 per cent of the sale price and pay the balance within four weeks. Should the buyer wish to pull out of a sale, he forfeits his deposit and can be sued for the rest. The seller cannot offer the property to anyone else, should they be offered a higher price.

LOCK-OUT DEALS

THIS is one method of avoiding gazumping with a conventional private treaty. For an agreed period, usually two weeks, a vendor agrees not to negotiate with a third party.

If a lock-out or exclusivity agreement is to be legally binding it needs to be in writing and both sets of lawyers have to agree the wording, which can prove costly and time-consuming. The vendor will incur financial penalties if he breaks the agreement and sells to a third party within the lock-out period. However, if a new offer is substantially higher than the original, the vendor may feel it is worthwhile to pay these costs.

It can be used to encourage the buyer to exchange contracts within the lock-out period and achieve a quick sale. If their offer is overturned, buyers stand to recover their costs.

Always insist that the exclusivity period runs from the moment your solicitors receive the draft contract, not from the time your offer is accepted. Deeds can take time to locate, and unscrupulous vendors may deliberately delay the documentation being sent off.

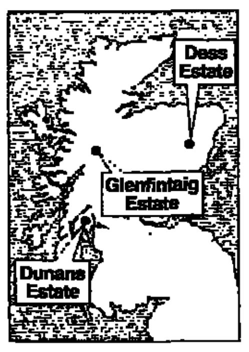
A lock-out clause, however, can alienate an otherwise amenable vendor. After you have agreed to buy a property, a useful tip is to see the vendor as soon as possible and shake their hand. This makes it much more difficult for the seller to accept a higher offer, as they will have given their word directly, rather than through their agent.

FOR SALE

SCOTTISH SPORTING ESTATES

ABERDEENSHIRE
The Dess Estate, Deeside. Residential and sporting estate in 934 acres with a 188-acre farm, pheasant shoot, roe deer stalking, duck flighting and salmon fishing on the river Dee, averaging 29 salmon. Main house with six bedrooms, four bathrooms, three reception rooms, kitchen, gun room, tower room and two-bedroom flat. Ten estate houses. About £1.5m (Strutt & Parker, 0131-226 2500)

INVERNESS-SHIRE
Glenfintaig Estate, Spean Bridge. Residential and sporting estate in 2,133 acres with a Georgian-style house overlooking Loch Lochy. Red, roe and sika deer stalking, rough shooting, salmon and sea trout fishing with boat house on Loch Lochy. Main house with seven bedrooms, five bathrooms, sauna and four reception rooms. Farm of 1,489 acres and 624 acres of mature woodland. Four estate cottages. About £1.25m (Strutt & Parker, 0131-226 2500)



ARGYLLSHIRE
Dunans Estate, Glendaruel. West coast sporting estate in 2,980 acres on the Cowal Peninsula with a baronial 19th-century house. Roe deer stalking, rough shooting, salmon and sea trout fishing on the river Ruel. Main house with seven bedrooms, four bathrooms, three reception rooms, staff flat and outbuildings. Farmhouse, 1,000 ewes, two cottages and 460 acres of woodland. About £680,000 (Savills, 0131-226 6961)

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ST PETERSBURGH PLACE, W2 Freehold £1,150,000
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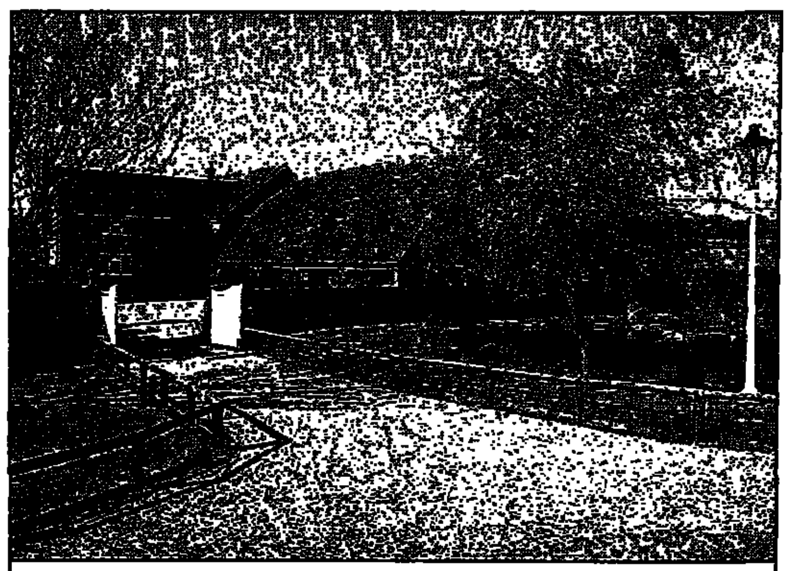
KENSINGTON: 0171-727 0705

HAMPSHIRE – New Forest About 4 ha (10 acres)
A fine Edwardian house on the outskirts of Burley. 7 beds, 5 baths, 4 receps, kitchen, games rm, garden rm. 1 bedroom staff flat, double garage, stabling complex, garden, paddock, woodland. In all about 10 acres of which 5 are currently leased. A further 4 acres may be available.
LYMINGTON: 01590 677233



HAMPSHIRE – Droxford, Nr Bishops Waltham About 3.34 ha (8.25 acres)
Surrounded by farmland in the Meon Valley, an attractive farmhouse with a superb indoor swimming pool complex. 5 beds, 5 baths, 3 receps, b'fast/playrm, kit, courtyard of traditional barns with garaging, stables & barn with planning consent, gardens, orchard, pond, paddocks.
WINCHESTER: 01962 863131

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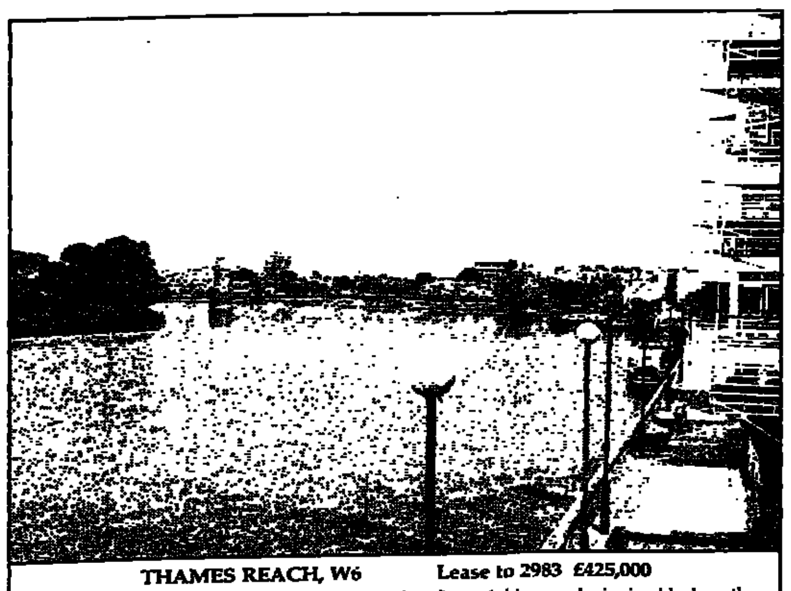
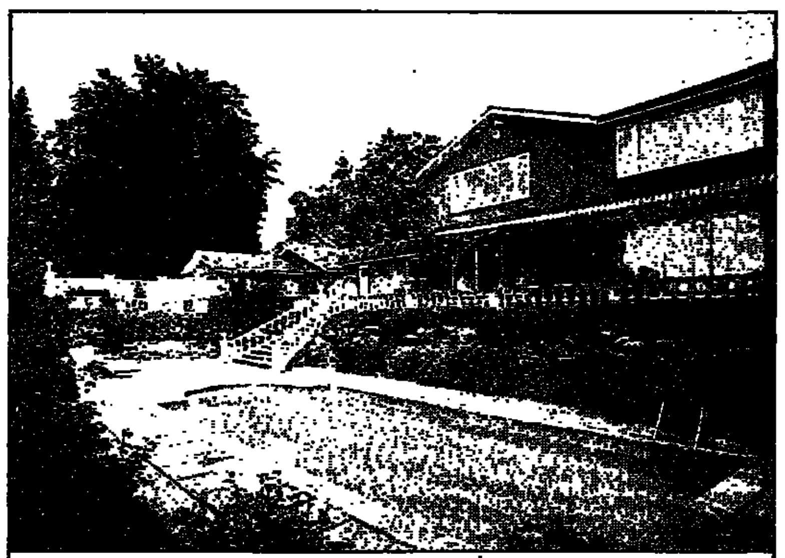


THAMES REACH, W6 Lease to 2983 £425,000
A particularly light and spacious flat on the first floor of this award winning block, with extensive views over the River Thames. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, L-shaped reception room, kitchen, roof terrace, balcony, lift, porter, parking.
FULHAM: 0171-731 4223



BERKSHIRE – Cookham Dean *Marlow 2½ miles M4 (Junction 7) 6 miles*
With outstanding views across the Thames Valley, a sumptuous riverside house with landscaped gardens, a swimming pool and 27m (90ft) mooring. 4/5 beds, 3 baths, recep hall, 3 receps, kit. Guest/staff cottage with 2 beds. Garaging for 3 cars, summerhouse, terrace.
HEAD OFFICE: 0171-493 4106

WEST PUTNEY, SW15
A detached 1930s house, spacious, bright and well-presented, with a wide south facing garden and scope to add reception and bedroom space. 5 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps, large hall, clkrm, kitchen, b'fast rm, utility rm, garaging, parking.
Freehold £525,000
WIMBLEDON: 0181-944 7172

HAMPSHIRE – Near Bishops Waltham Price Guide: £325,000
In an elevated position with long rural views, a detached family house with a separate cottage. 4 beds, 2 baths, 3 receps, kitchen, utility, clkrm, verandah, 3 bay carport. Detached cottage with 1/2 beds, bath, recep, kit, cellar, double garage. Gardens and grounds. About 1.17 ha (2.89 acres)
WELLER EGGAR: 01489 893555 JOHN D WOOD & CO. 01962 863131

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
Bibury, Near Cirencester
A charming, detached cottage with retail space and attractive living accommodation in one of the most beautiful & regularly visited villages in the Cotswolds. 2/3 beds, bath, shower rm, recep hall/retail shop area, 1/2 receps, kit, garden.
Price Guide: £165,000
CIRENCESTER: 01285 642244

Elizabeth Buchan is won over by Anne Rice's revealing views on her writing but finds that practice does not measure up to theory in her new novel

On the record, off the bone

Rice: darts of insight

"I REALLY believe in Aristotle's principles: give them spectacle, drama, catharsis, pity, fear." Author of, among others, *Interview with the Vampire*, *The Vampire Lestat* and *Queen of the Damned*, Anne Rice is a mega-selling American author who strives to fictionalise "new and beautiful ways to discuss love", according to *Interview with Anne Rice*. A "Southern" writer, she reckons the South's natural affinity with the crazy, the grotesque and the colourful blows a liberating wind into contemporary popular fiction.

Certainly, she appears to have been brilliant at tapping into a perennial fascination with a darker eroticism, a love of gadzookery, gold lace and bodices, our uneasy rejection of religion and distrust of death. On this evidence, her novels, which range in subject from vampires to castrati to pornography, are deft mergers between what is known as the Nut Market and the perfectly laudatory appetite for a rollicking costume drama with a bit of mythical meat. They are not, she maintains, pure escapism either. As the respectful Michael Riley puts it:

■ INTERVIEW WITH ANNE RICE
By Michael Riley
Chatto & Windus, £9.99
ISBN 0 7011 6581 2

they combine "suffering and serenity, evil and the refusal to be doomed, charity and violence".

Theory dealt with, interviewer and interviewee get down to the basics and a respectable amount of the text is devoted to handbagging publishers, editors, copy editors and

■ SERVANT OF THE BONES
By Anne Rice
Chatto & Windus, £15.99
ISBN 0 7011 6515 4

to describing the horrors of being caught up in the Hollywood machine. The moral is: never underestimate an author's thin skin.

Yet, in between the bouts of insecurity and sometimes simmering anger, she lets loose darts of insight, common sense and honesty, and nobody could fail to be charmed by her robust self-criticism. "Structurally," she confesses, "*The Vampire Lestat* is a mess." Although what the "Irish hatred of women" is in the film of *Interview with the Vampire* left me mystified.

Too "history-bound" is her verdict on a couple of earlier novels, a complaint from which, disappointingly, *Servant of the Bones* also suffers. Its hero, Azriel, is a ghost born 2,500 years ago in Babylon who roams the earth and darts in and out of watersheds — Alexander's death, the pogroms of 14th-century Strasbourg. In the 20th century, he gets tangled up with the sinister Geoffrey Belkin, who wants to dominate the earth, and the race is on to foil his wicked schemes.

I struggled with it but sleep claimed me and I dreamt that the author shook off a curious inertia to deploy the skill, and the will, to infuse her gorgeous visions, her instinct for the exotic and her willingness to tackle serious themes with narrative and dramatic coherence to achieve that Aristotelian catharsis. Alas, I awoke.

Russia's city of blood

Natasha Fairweather on a novel of decay and murder in St Petersburg

THERE is nothing new about murder in St Petersburg. Peter the Great's city was built on the bones of the thousands of forced labourers who put palaces in the place of marshes and died so that Russia could look West. It is impossible to separate Raskolnikov, Dostoevsky's febrile assassin in *Crime And Punishment*, from the city which spawned him. Rasputin's legendary triple murder by poison, gunshot and drowning took place here in the months leading up to the revolution. Then the city itself was renamed after Lenin, one of history's most assiduous mass murderers.

Creswell: assured debut

It is into this city that Sophia Creswell, a young English writer, and Natalie, her fictional counterpart, enter in the autumn of 1991, armed with little more than a first-aid kit. And as the Soviet Union begins to unravel and rival Mafia gangs struggle to fill the void left by the disintegrating communist systems, Natalie

■ SAM GOLOD
By Sophia Creswell
Sceptre, £9.99
ISBN 0 340 6639 0

has to bring out the Germolene and Mercurichrome with increasing frequency.

Sam Golod ("self-hunger" in Russian) catalogues Natalie's transformation from an innocent English teacher with a cautious approach to Russia into the girlfriend of Pyotr, an artist with caring, soulful friends, but far too powerful enemies. Admitted into a group of artists who squat in the crumbling old courtyards of Pushkinskaya, Natalie is sucked into the underworld where art-dealing and drug-dealing meet, usually to the accompaniment of gunfire.

This is an assured and well-crafted first novel. Eschewing descriptions of the physical experience of living in St Petersburg (the light, the smells and the obstacle course of holes and protruding pipes which characterise life in the decaying city), Creswell strives instead to capture the essence of Russians: their particular sadness, oriental machismo and anarchic spirit.

It is tempting to trace the scenes where Creswell's own experience is welded to the Petersburg of her imagination. But as the murders begin to pile up, and Natalie embarks on her restless investigation, the narrative begins to drift (to use one of Creswell's own similes) "like the Neva ice in a thaw, splitting, moving slowly away from the banks and out of [her] control".

Face to face: Venetian mask shop, from *Venice: The Four Seasons* by Lisa St Aubin de Terán with photographs by Mick Lindbergh (Pavilion, £12.99, ISBN 1 85793 726 0)

You want to complain? What about us?

AS TOLSTOY famously observed, "each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way", but even he might have marvelled at the original spin the Moore family of North Bay, near Detroit, put on their misery. Every Christmas, the Moore offspring — Ginger, a biographer, and Cease, who is not anything much — come home for Christmas and spend a holiday tinkering with fresh torments for themselves and their parents, Virginia and Poppy.

Cease, although in his forties, has still not forgiven Virginia for being a drunk. His way of letting her know this is to invent a question and answer game called Dysfunctional Families, in which one of the questions is the highly-personal: "What North Bay mother ruined her son's life by showing up as a class mother wearing nothing but a mink

■ THE SHADOW OF DESIRE
By Rebecca Stowe
Sceptre, £8.99
ISBN 0 340 67188 2

coat?" Another part of the Moores' festive tradition is to watch the same movie every Christmas Eve. The movie is *Psycho*.

The narrator of this bleak domestic drama is Ginger, the biographer of dead, shadowy women who, like Ginger herself, achieved little in their lifetimes. Sometimes she considers writing about livelier subjects, Mary Shelley or Emerald Cunard, but not for long. She knows that her own wistful mopiness could not handle all that sparkle.

Ginger, like Cease, cannot shake herself free from her self-pitying, ruined mother, although, unlike Cease, she understands that Virginia is that way because she holds herself responsible for the death of her third child in babyhood.

Because of Virginia's desperate clinging, Ginger lives her life in retreat. Professionally, she scuttles about in the dreary existences of historical nonentities. Personally, she has a wary relationship with a man who cannot bear to hear the word relationship.

Although *The Shadow of Desire* is an enticing title, it does not much reflect the contents of the book. It could more accurately have been called *Dead Losers*, since that is what every single character in it is. And, although Stowe's writing has a fine wryness, reading about people who do nothing but whinge has as numbing an effect in fiction as it does in real life.

PENNY PERRICK

Ashton's footnote

THE choreographer Sir Frederick Ashton talked to Julie Kavanagh on condition that she published nothing till he was dead. Now her biography, called *Secret Muses* (Faber, October), reveals who some of those "muses" were. One was the Queen Mother, with whom he used to drink "zonking Martinis". Another was the Russian ballet teacher Vera Volkova, who would tell her pupils that their leg should be hugging something: "You are hugging one of zose red English pillar-boxes. You must hug *ze gasworks*!"

BOOKNEWS

● *CARCANET Press is determined to be a brisk phoenix after losing its offices in the Manchester bombing: it is launching a paperback fiction list, starting with Ford Madox Ford's* The Good Soldier.

● USUALLY British and American editions of a book are the same, down to the last splash of "color". In Sir Robin Renwick's book about the trials of the Anglo-American relationship, *Fighting With Allies*, he has tried to address both countries — and has tailored it slightly differently for each, explaining to the Americans who Castlereagh was and to the British who John Quincy Adams was. Our version will be coming soon from Macmillan.

Poetry of the desolate past

■ *FOUR LAST THINGS*
By William Palmer
Secker & Warburg, £12.99
ISBN 0 436 36051 9

"THE PAST . . . I wonder if it truly exists?" asks Cornelius Marten, the protagonist of the central story in this collection of bleak tales. Certainly Marten, an established author in his sixties, cannot write about the past, but he finds that he can talk about it, given the right stimulus. His memory clears as he speaks and, instead of the autobiographical history of 20th-century intellectual evolution (yes, really) that he intends, Marten reveals the inhibitions and motivations that have shaped his image of himself. "Nothing and everything was as it should be."

A sense of desolation links the stories here and is shared by their subjects. Joy is undone by doubt, by avoidance; any excitement is driven by fear and inner conflicts, even in the flush of first love, the curiosity of childhood or a holiday adventure.

William Palmer conveys this brilliantly. Whether over six pages or a hundred his ideas are realised with seemingly effortless clarity and elegance. He makes such sombre stuff as the loss of hope, disappointment turning into disillusion or a lifelong regret into entertainment. A poet's touch?

Poets occur often, the famed as well as the failed, as does the notion of foreignness. It is alcohol though that really features: all but one of the stories has the demon drink in it; one is even called *Cherry Brandy*. The book's first sentence has Cornelius Marten heading for the pub, and if not sloshed by the end of the paragraph, he is well on his way. Later, during his cathartic discourse, Marten reflects, "All creative energy is sexual in origin" and blames his age for his impotence. It has, apparently, not occurred to him that he may be suffering artistic brewer's droop.

Four Last Things is a rewarding and oddly enjoyable book about how our self-deceptions and tricks of memory keep us going. All of our past is with us all of the time, Palmer tells us, the past — the present — of our thoughts and feelings as much as (or more than) that which is "real".

GORDON CHILVERS

Dean of horror springs a joke

THERE ought to be a law against Dean Koontz. No author plunges so deep into the viscera of modern society to pluck out squirming, unspeakable horrors with quite the same gut-wrenching accuracy as this mild-mannered, moustachioed American.

So when we discover that *Ticktock* features a rag doll that comes to life as a malevolent manikin with a lizard's tail and an insatiable bloodlust, the image that springs to mind is Chucky in *Child's Play 2*, one of the video-nasties blamed by the press for increasing violence among the young. None of which would be strange for a man whose last two books have featured variations on the theme of a serial rapist who imprisons and mutilates his victims.

So, it is with some astonishment, not to mention a sharp intake of mirth, that we discover that this book turns out more like an exotic cocktail of *Bewitched* — remember Samantha with her twitchy nose? — and *The Curse of Fu Manchu*. Just why is the mutating monster pursuing Tommy Phan, a Vietnamese-American whose biggest head-

■ TICKTOCK
By Dean Koontz
Headline, £16.99
ISBN 0 7472 1398 4

ache until now has been that his mother calls him Tuong and refuses to accept his rejection of the old country's ways? And what can be so extraordinary about the waitress with the pickup truck — "a slender, blue-eyed blonde with a pert nose and rosy complexion — the kind of woman about whom his mother probably had nightmares"?

Well, you would not believe me if I told you, unless you had let Koontz take you on his hugely enjoyable roller-coaster ride first. In an afterword, Koontz justifies both his devices and his rationale.

But he really does not need to. This is the pinprick that bursts the bubble of tension so spectacularly built up in his books to date. It is not so much a parody as a generic set piece custom-built to fit the classic unities — most of the action takes place with 12 hours — as well as tinkering playfully with some equally classic clichés. A *tour de force* demonstration that Koontz is not just a master of our darkest

Koontz: literary juggler

dreams but also a literary juggler who can take on Stephen King, even in lighter mode, and best him.

PETER MILLAR

The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	THE RUNAWAY JURY **John Grisham** *(Century)*	£12.99	2	11
2	THE FOURTH ESTATE **Jeffrey Archer** *(HarperCollins)*	£16.99	0	8
3	APPASSIONATA **Jilly Cooper** *(Bantam)*	£16.99	4	15
4	SOLITAIRE MYSTERY **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	10	7
5	WHEEL OF TIME BOOK 7: CROWN OF SWORDS **Robert Jordan** *(Orbit)*	£17.99	1	4
6	POPCORN **Ben Elton** *(Simon & Schuster)*	£14.99	0	1
7	THE WOMAN WHO WALKED INTO DOORS **Roddy Doyle** *(Jonathan Cape)*	£14.99	9	16
8	OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS **Nick Pope** *(Simon & Schuster)*	£14.99	5	6
9	FEET OF CLAY **Terry Pratchett** *(Gollancz)*	£15.99	3	9
10	KEEPER OF GENESIS **Robert Bauval & Graham Hancock** *(Heinemann)*	£16.99	0	6

PAPERBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	GREEN MILE 5: NIGHT JOURNEY **Stephen King** *(Penguin)*	£1.99	0	1
2	FROM POTTER'S FIELD **Patricia Cornwell** *(Warner)*	£5.99	1	6
3	HIGH FIDELITY **Nick Hornby** *(Indigo)*	£5.99	6	17
4	THE GHOST ROAD **Pat Barker** *(Penguin)*	£6.99	3	4
5	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£6.99	5	22
6	THE HORSE WHISPERER **Nicholas Evans** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	4	9
7	THE LOST WORLD **Michael Crichton** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	2	5
8	THERAPY **David Lodge** *(Penguin)*	£6.99	9	13
9	BELGARATH THE SORCERER **David Eddings** *(HarperCollins)*	£6.99	8	2
10	COMPLETE THEORY TEST FOR CARS AND MOTORCYCLES **John Page** *(HMSO)*	£9.99	0	4
11	THE MOOR'S LAST SIGH **Salman Rushdie** *(Vintage)*	£6.99	7	5
12	THE BEST OF FRIENDS **Joanna Trollope** *(Black Swan)*	£6.99	18	12
13	ECSTASY **Irvine Welsh** *(Jonathan Cape)*	£9.99	11	10
14	REGENERATION **Pat Barker** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	15	2
15	BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM **Kate Atkinson** *(Black Swan)*	£6.99	0	21
16	OF LOVE AND OTHER DEMONS **Gabriel Garcia Marquez** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	12	5
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19	GRANTCHESTER GRIND **Tom Sharpe** *(Pan Macmillan)*	£5.99	13	8
20	THE EYE IN THE DOOR **Pat Barker** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	20	2

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Feudal future

ONE of the more celebrated conceits of science fiction, or, more properly, science fantasy, is that the future resembles nothing more than an imagined distant past. In the brave new worlds of science fantasy, medieval knights dressed in full armour fight with swords, even if these sometimes turn out to have curious properties: *Gormenghast*-style castles in which spaceships land are lit by torches and are replete with dungeons; tyrants are referred to as "my liege" and care nothing for the millions over whose lives they hold sway.

Humanity's destiny, if we are to believe the weavers of science fantasy, is to regress into a reordered version of Hitler's Germany or Arthurian legend, in which magic is at least as important as technology and ordinary people are in thrall to princes and demons.

Anne McCaffrey, one of the queens of science fantasy, knows exactly how to give her public what it wants. In this second volume of the *Chronicles of Pern*, the inhabitants of Pern — the third planet of the G-time star Rukbat — are about to relive an ancient encounter with the Thread, a virus-like horror originating from a rogue planet that periodically passes within their orbit around Rukbat.

Pern is governed entirely by

■ RED STAR RISING
By Anne McCaffrey
Bantam, £15.99
ISBN 0 593 03770 7

science fantasy. Its people, who travelled from Earth eons ago, have lost most of their highly advanced technology and have reverted to an almost Oriental medievalism. Their computers and archives are no longer understood. They are reduced to writing and copying documents like monks.

On the plus side, they have dragons — real fire-belching, flying monsters — with which they are in a strange communion and which offer their best hope of defeating the Thread. Lord Holders and Weyrleaders, resembling Japanese warlords, prepare to do battle with the Thread while quarrelling among themselves over the threat of the nefarious Lord Chalkin, Holder of Bitra.

McCaffrey's style is plain and simple, and American. Most of her characters, despite their medieval gloss, are plainly from southern California and would work for Bill Gates if only they could remember how to download a programme. But they are good fun, and the tale keeps rattling along. To hell with the future, let's get on with the past.

WALTER ELLIS

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NEW IN PAPERBACK

THE GUARDIAN

Peter Carey: able to make the bizarre seem true to life

■ COLLECTED STORIES
By Peter Carey
Faber, £6.99
ISBN 0 571 17586 4

EVER since the first British publication of *The Fat Man in History* (1980), short story writer and Booker Prize-winning novelist Peter Carey has been a name to conjure with. Here we have the chance to read all his published stories in one volume, including some not widely seen before.

The cumulative impact is *stunning*. Carey's political and private landscapes are all too eerily plausible, his dark 20th-century fables both contemporary and timeless, Australian and anywhere's. Above all, their recitation is a performance, to be listened to with the held breath of an audience watching theatre magic on stage.

Just one of his tricks is to use everyday objects and locations (drive-in cinemas, horses, domestic goods) as the accoutrements of surreal horror or black comedy. Most of these stories tell of relatively ordinary people caught in fearsome power traps or doomed erotic fantasies, but he is such a beguiling narrator that the more bizarre the story the truer to life he seems.

From the cartographers of *Do You Love Me?* to the stoned marketing men of *War Crimes*, the characters in these tales of the unexpected take their chances with both love and violence, cheating the system, escaping it, or simply trying to control it. It is a bleak world he describes, but recognisable — and brilliantly entertaining.

ELIZABETH BISHOP
ONE ART
LETTERS

■ ONE ART
Selected Letters of
Elizabeth Bishop
Edited by Robert Giroux
Pimlico, £14
ISBN 0 7126 7365 2

ROBERT GIROUX has done a superb job of presenting a literary life in letters. There is an excellent introduction, useful commentary throughout, a chronology, and an index. It is a wonderful glimpse into the passions, joys, and despairs of a woman of more than one art. Bishop writes about her work, her health, her relationship with Lota, with whom she lived in Brazil for 15 years; her polite non-replies to Robert Lowell are also illuminating. Details such as her rain-soaked toucan Sammy and her appreciation of a pair of binoculars sent by May Sarton make the book a delight.

■ WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MARGO?
By Margaret Durrell
Warner Books, £6.99
ISBN 0 7515 1673 2

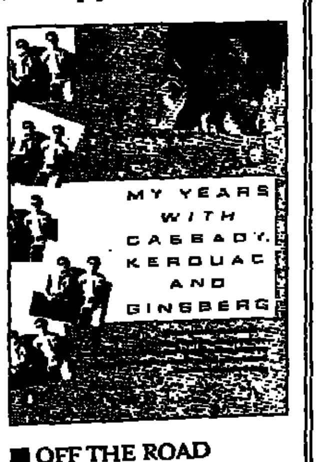
MARGO was the sophisticated elder sister in *My Family and Other Animals* who, a decade after the events in brother Gerald's popular account of his growing up in Corfu, found herself opening a guesthouse in suburban Bournemouth, soon taken over by a band of eccentric but amiable lodgers, abetted by visiting members of her family. Margo proves she inherited her full quota of the Durrell wit in this charming book, written in the Sixties but never published until recently unearthed by her granddaughter from Durrell's attic.

■ SUMMER LIGHT
By Roxana Robinson
Bloomsbury, £6.99
ISBN 0 7475 2550 1

LAURA takes her pre-school son Sam to Maine for a summer holiday, joining her sister's family and her boyfriend of two years, Ward. Events move out of her control and she is forced to examine her life and relationships. What evolves is a tale about love that is not a love story but an exploration of the many facets of love; romantic, familial, platonic. The narrative is peppered with descriptive snapshots that beautifully capture momentary scenes.

■ ARCHANGEL
By Paul Watkins
Faber, £5.99
ISBN 0 571 17881 2

ADOPTING the tactics of guerrilla warfare, eco-warrior Adam Gabriel chooses his childhood home as his battleground. He drives spikes into trees and immobilises machinery in an attempt to save the forest. His enemy, logging company owner Jonah Mackenzie, will stop at nothing to get what he wants. The plot moves with the pace of a Hollywood blockbuster. Violence is hurled from the pages. Yet Watkins's prose is also full of sensual and sensitive observation. The result is a fast and enjoyable read.



■ JACK KEROUAC
Selected Letters *1940-56*
Edited by Ann Charters
Penguin, £12.50
ISBN 0 14 023444 6

THESE letters take Kerouac from his days at Columbia University, New York, to what Charters calls the "last year of his anonymity", before the publication of his autobiographical novel *On The Road*. Kerouac was a manic letter-writer, and it is hard not to feel irritated by some of the ill-digested ramblings of his "Buddhist" period in the 1950s on which he based *The Dharma Bums*. But some of the other letters, such as his moving accounts of his childhood to his buddy Neal Cassady, are full of power and originality, and show Kerouac for the original writer that he was.

■ OFF THE ROAD
By Carolyn Cassady
Penguin, £9.99
ISBN 0 14 015390

A familiar story of the Fifties: naive American girl gets caught up in the tune-in, turn-on, drop-out world of the "Beat Generation"; gets pregnant, tries to detach herself, fails, and lives to rue the day. The man this girl became involved with was Neal Cassady — friend of Kerouac, Ginsberg and Ken — and the era she describes was glamorised in numerous books, most famously Kerouac's *On The Road*. This rather stiffly written memoir shows it for what it really was: a seedy, self-indulgent, self-destructive world in which women were casually exploited — less *On the Road* than off the rails.

Contributors: Alison Burns, Natascha Hildebrandt, Fanny Blake, Victoria Walker, Hazel Leslie

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Like mother used to make

Sarah Bradford is happily reminded of a time when domestic cooking was dependent on the bounty of the seasons

I WAS a teenager when this unsurpassable compendium of English cookery was first published in 1954 and yet had never heard of it. There was a *Mrs Beeton* — never consulted — on our kitchen shelf, but the vogue cookbooks of the 1950s were those by Constance Spry and Elizabeth David.

"English cooking is old-fashioned because we like it that way," Dorothy Hartley wrote in her introduction. "Even our kitchens are modernised in rather an old-fashioned way — not streamlined in the transatlantic manner." That statement was on the way to being outdated even in 1954, when that strange hotchpotch "Coronation Chicken", invented by Spry to celebrate the Queen's coronation, was all the rage. Only 40 years later it seems to refer to the dark ages as foodies are carried away on wave after wave of fads — char-grilled asparagus being one of the most recent and silliest.

On the whole, traditional cooking has gone under, even in France, where top chefs are now complaining about hideous new combinations of ingredients. The idea that there were cogent, rational, economic reasons for a dish being cooked the way it was has completely vanished.

■ FOOD IN ENGLAND
By Dorothy Hartley
Little, Brown, £22.50
ISBN 0 316 87900 2

The re-publication of Hartley's masterpiece is timely, a reminder of a past when cooking was based on the seasons and available material, affected by regional differences and people's occupations. Hartley is the author of the six-volume *Life & Work of the People of England*, and has authoritative information on such diverse ways of cooking as the bargee's pail, in which all sorts of dishes were crammed into a bucket over a fire, or the provisions which were made up for long sea voyages in the early 19th century. Many of the recipes make you long for the leisure and space of an old-fashioned kitchen, with the time to do such things as curing your own hams.

The huge range of knowledge and instruction in this book is simply unique. There are illustrations of "a Colonial Travelling Meat Safe of Mosquito Net for use in camp" and how to make it, lists of medieval banquets, how to roast and dress a peacock, snippets of information such as that Queen Victoria enjoyed marrow toast for tea. There are hundreds of recipes ranging from the exotic to the practical, the delicious to the disgusting. With Hartley in hand, you can make mead, brew catnip tea or construct your own privy. It is the ideal antidote to an age of fast food and, at £22.50 for more than 600 pages, a bargain.

The good, the Bard and the ugly

Philip Howard is touched and amused by A. N. Wilson's novel

NO CHARACTER in this book passes the desert-island test. And many would be alarming (though entertaining) to be sat next to at dinner. Except for you, self-effacing Will. The reader must excuse me for interrupting myself in this post-Modernist way, but so do the author and his protagonist persona. Shakespeare is the backstage Oberon, Prospero or Svengali of this witty and touching, high camp and literary tale. A. N. Wilson and Julian Ramsay perform as Puck, Ariel and Trilby.

Everyone makes up his own Shakespeare, as everyone sees himself (herself?) as Hamlet. So Shakespeare is addressed, interpreted, deconstructed and performed throughout this sixth and concluding act of the Lampitt chronicles. Julian Ramsay, now 60-ish, looks back, all passion spent (almost). The best piece of work he ever wrote was a dramatisation for three players of Shakespeare's *Sonnets*, called *Dear Time's Waste*, but renamed by more worldly performers as *Dark Lady*. So Julian's mind wanders back from retirement out of the swing of the stage to making love to a celebrity black actress — the last time he made love.

And his recovery of lost time takes in 50 years of London literary and theatrical life, from the Mosleyite Blackshirts to yesterday. The characters include old friends and enemies from the previous Lampittmen with their silly names, as well as factional creatures such as Jeff Bernard, Clive James and somebody libellously like Melvyn Bragg. The dead cultural references and tags are equally impressive, from Poussin and Proust to Tasso. But Shakespeare is the unseen protagonist.

■ A WATCH IN THE NIGHT
By A. N. Wilson
Sinclair-Stevenson, £15.99
ISBN 1 85619 685 2

And the pageant flitters from the Firbankian delights of a purple pilgrimage to Walsingham to a gay bar for old buffers off Oxford Street and a wintry jaunt to Venice. There are two candidates for the role of Widmerpool. And violent deaths by defenestration that are the main physical action as the chronicles come home to roost.

Wilson is sharp about the professional roguery of what used to be called Fleet Street and the pseudery of Bookerland and literary bureaucracy. None of the characters does anything as boring as go to an office, and the men are funnier, nastier and more credible than the women. But the book is touching about love and the failure of love and sound on Shakespeare, as well as funny.

TIMES BOOKS

THURSDAY

Discoverers and saints: Daniel J. Boorstin on the finding of the longitude and Jeanette Winterson on Joan of Arc; plus Glyn Maxwell on William Morris's Iceland

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Bat out of Hell: Sir Donald Bradman was a genius on the field but mean-spirited off it

When all's said and Don

THERE are two ways of looking at Sir Donald Bradman. The first view, to which Charles Williams does not subscribe (but towards which I have always tended), is that when he had his pads on, Bradman was the best batsman the world has ever seen, but a mean-spirited little man when it came to life beyond the boundary.

The second view, which this engaging biography would dearly love to establish, is that Bradman was indeed phenomenal, but that the pressures of public adulation were so suffocating that the poor man had no option but to retreat into his shell of aloofness.

The author is an honest chronicler and leaves us in no doubt that his subject is a complex one. He never says that Bradman was a cuddly fellow, nor even that he was particularly warm-hearted: all he asks is that we should give the Emperor of the Bat the benefit of the doubt.

■ BRADMAN
By Charles Williams
Little, Brown, £20
ISBN 0 316 88097 3

I am not sure that I will, even after reading carefully — and with patent enjoyment — this polished, old-fashioned cricket book. Williams is here too obviously an advocate — and a sophisticated one — for a personal hero. Yet like all good advocates, he gives us the facts as well: and these all too often show up Bradman in an unfavourable light.

The man who averaged 99.94 per Test innings averaged — by my crude estimation — only 20-odd as a human being. He was tense and teetotal, sharing neither social outings, nor prize money, nor even his emotions with his team-mates. And reading this book, one is also left with the sensation that Bradman was perhaps even a C of E chauvinist, as distrustful of the Roman Catholics in his team as they, not surprisingly, were of him.

Yet Williams's thesis is straightforward: Bradman was the way he was because extraordinary pressures were constantly bearing down on him. By his batting prowess, he delivered to Australia an eloquent form of emancipation from Empire. He was, therefore, a political hero.

No young man, the thesis continues, can turn from being an anonymous country boy to a quasi-political national icon without a profound and stressful metamorphosis. The author invites you to accept the inevitability of that process, and to take account of it in judging Bradman. Fair enough. But my own jury is still out.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

Six set out on a long, wet weekend

■ BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
By Henry Sutton
Sceptre, £15.99
ISBN 0 340 64988 7

WHEN six people go to the beach for a couple of days, you do not expect it to take 245 pages. If it does, it has to be good. In Henry Sutton's second novel, *Bank Holiday Monday*, five unappealing adults and one twitchy child with pretentious names (Henderson, Carey, Tristram) visit Norfolk for a long weekend. They stay in a sinister windmill and take long walks across the marshes. They picnic. They get lost. They argue. It rains. They sleep badly. Nothing else happens, although you remain convinced to the end that something will.

This unfulfilled promise is both the strength and the weakness of the novel. Ultimately, Sutton fails to deliver any one of an assortment of possible horrors and, consequently, the book is disappointing. However, he does manage to sustain a really nasty suspense throughout, which requires considerable skill and restraint. The walks which the party take through the Norfolk marshes and sand dunes are suffused with menace: the landscape is vast and forbidding, bleak and full of regrets, its character inexplicably ominous. These are no ordinary post-prandial strolls: each is pregnant with the possibilities of murder, vanishing, incest and infidelity.

It is on the human terrain that Sutton slips up, for he writes much better about place than people. In fact, his characters are so unsympathetic that the impact of the narrative is reduced, because you cannot find it within yourself to care if any one of them ends up drowned or lost or squished. Even though *Bank Holiday Monday* is essentially a psychological novel (the wilderness of the characters' internal lives is mirrored by the landscape, etc), it resorts too often to the cliché of the personal journey. Henderson is revisiting scenes of childhood shame; Alice is escaping an abusive love affair; and Carey is finally admitting to herself that her relationship with Francis is pretty shabby.

I am bored with novels which depend upon the collective realisation of dull people that the past must be faced in order for the future to be possible. It does not necessarily follow, and narratives based upon shaky popular premises run the risk of being inward-looking, incurious and over-certain. But, although I wished these dreadful townies had indeed ended up in some Faustian Norfolk bog, long after I finished reading *Bank Holiday Monday*, I remained haunted by Sutton's powerful descriptions of the land and chilled by its threat.

MARY LOUDON

Knocking at the pearly Gates

THIS book is the business-school equivalent of the popular television show, *How Do They Do That?*. Microsoft is currently the most effective high-technology company on the planet. It has grown in 21 years from a gleam in the eye of a Harvard drop-out to one of the world's most profitable companies, in the process transforming Bill Gates into the world's richest man.

It has successfully managed the transition from high-tech start-up to mature corporation which eludes most technology-based enterprises. And although its chairman and staff behave as though the company might be wiped out tomorrow, in fact no serious competitors currently exist.

Millions of executives would dearly love to copy Gates. As a result, there is a thriving market in what one might call "Tales about Bill" — apocrypha reminiscent of the folklore which surrounded John D. Rockefeller, J. P. Morgan or George Eastman in their day. Gates's personal and intellectual dominance of his company is often cited as the key to its success, for example; likewise his pathologically competitive temperament, domineering personal style or deal-making genius.

More insightful accounts of the Microsoft culture have emerged from a handful of reporters who have ventured, like Edwardian anthropologists into the jungle, into the heart of Microsoft's activities — the engineering teams which produce the company's products. These have produced reams of colourful detail but little analysis. Anyone attempting to copy Microsoft on the basis of such field reports would wind up replicating the style while missing the substance.

■ MICROSOFT SECRETS
By Michael A. Cusumano and Richard W. Selby
HarperCollins Business, £20
ISBN 0 00 255692 8

Which is where Michael Cusumano and Richard Selby come in. They were given the same level of privileged access as the visiting anthropologists, but approached their subject with a more analytical eye. The result is a less than riveting read, but a much more informative book. In contrast to previous awestruck visitors, Cusumano and Selby do not believe that everything in the Microsoft garden is rosy, but they have emerged with a healthy respect for a corporate culture which does very difficult things relatively well, learns from its mistakes and — given its dominance — is remarkably responsive to feedback from its customers.

In corporate terms, the central achievement of Microsoft is that it has evolved a distinctive method of producing very complex products which are fairly reliable and delivered within reasonable timescale.

Gates: apocryphal tales

Much of Microsoft Secrets is devoted to an explication of this method, and as such will be fascinating to anyone bursting to know how Gates does it. Whether they can copy him is another matter entirely.

JOHN NAUGHTON

Lots of sugar with their tee

THIS IS a rites-of-passage novel, with a strong sense of American place and time, a dewy-eyed view of sport, underpinned by a young lad's search for a father figure. As a piece of popular-but-literary American fiction, it is an almost formulaic construct: *Fast Greens* has just about got it all.

It is Billy's thirteenth summer, and the dawn of a sweltering Texan day. LBJ is in the White House and Billy is on the golf course, caddying in a match that has no significance to golf but enormous import to its participants. Back in 1938, William March and Roscoe Fowler had both discovered golf at about the time that they struck oil. In a drunken, moonlit game, they had played for the name of the company and their partnership, and March had lost. Now, in 1965, after years of watching Roscoe mismanage Fowler Oil, March calls for a rematch.

■ FAST GREENS
By Turk Pipkin
Richard Cohen, £9.99
ISBN 1 86066 041 X

The novel begins with perhaps too much emphasis on golf rather than plot. Great chunks of the prose — "March needn't even tee one up if he was certain Sandy could make an eagle" — are a little alienating to those of us just along for the narrative ride. But once the love interest is wheeled in on a golf cart, there is something for everyone.

Young Billy has been brought up by his glamorous grandmother, Jewel. It was she who fixed him up with this caddying job, and her involvement with both the players only becomes apparent to him as the game unfolds. Flashbacks to the 1930s gradually unveil the truth about her relationship with March, and, by the end, he has become the male role-model which Billy has always sought.

Billy concludes his memoir with a definition of magic: "undying love, raising babies, playing 18 holes without a three-putt". It sums up the novel: *Fast Greens* is both enchantingly wistful and stickily sentimental. Nevertheless, Turk Pipkin can write, and this is a fine contribution to a popular genre.

GILL HORNBY

Three sisters in a fraught search for Messrs Right

The high cost of loving

WHILE Chekhov's three sisters yearned to go to Moscow, the three in this novel merely want to make the men in their lives behave reasonably.

Beverly, a thirtyish magazine editor, is unmarried because she will not make any compromises with her vision of the ideal husband. Longing for a baby, she considers the opportunities offered by the local sperm bank but discovers that they have no black donors. Charmaine, who dropped out of university to marry, divorced and then had a child by someone else, is now married to a wastrel. The eldest, Evelyn, is a successful psychotherapist who shops at Bloomingdales. Her husband is a rising lawyer, and she congratulates herself on becoming not just middle-class black but plain middle-class.

■ SISTERS AND LOVERS
By Connie Briscoe
HarperCollins, £5.99
ISBN 0 00 649804 3

Like most sisters, these drive each other mad, turn to each other in trouble and swap confidences they usually regret. They consider all the men they know to be hopeless. If they are not idle, sleeping around or snorting coke, they are taking risks with the family budget or telling lies. One of them is even *fat*. They assume that women exist to pick up the pieces and provide whatever they want.

Despite the almost insuperable odds against a happy ending, everything works out a bit too neatly for the sisters. As they come to terms with themselves, they discover that there are some compromises they will make to get what they really want from life.

Written in a chatty style that occasionally slips over the edge into banality, *Sisters and Lovers* is an entertaining exploration of the difficulties faced by women who believe that the key to happiness is a husband and yet know perfectly well that the only reliable security for themselves and their children is that which comes from their own achievements.

KATE HATFIELD

GOING OUT

CHILDREN

■ LONDON

Big Friendly Giant
Series of workshops taking the theme of Roald Dahl's classic tale. For eight to 14-year-olds.
Rosemary Branch Theatre,
Shepperton Road, N1 (0171-704 6665). Today, ends tomorrow, 10.30am-12.30pm (ages 12-14), 2pm-4pm (ages 8-11): £1.

The Family Activity Cart
Three to 12-year-olds are invited to participate in a wide range of activities.
Victoria and Albert Museum,
Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8500). Today, ends tomorrow, 10.30am-5pm: free.

Kids of the Wild West
Theatre performance for five to 12-year-olds exploring the theme of time-travel.
Open Air Theatre,
Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Today, 11.15am; £4.50.

Animating London
The chance to explore animation in a series of 30-minute sessions for the family. For seven-year-olds and above.
Museum of London,
London Wall, EC2 (0171-600 3699). Today, 11.30am-4.30pm, tomorrow, 12.45pm-4.45pm; adults £3.50, concs £1.75, family ticket, £8.50.

Summer on the Square
Street festival for children, featuring dance, music, theatre and workshops.
Peckham Square,
Peckham High Street/Rye Lane, SE15 (0171-732 3232). Today, midday-4pm; free.

Summer Holiday Tours
Eight to 11-year-olds are invited to join an informal and interactive tour of the gallery.
National Gallery,
Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321). Today, tomorrow, 11.30am; free.

London: an illustration by Quentin Blake of Roald Dahl's tale of *The BFG* (Big Friendly Giant)

Sun, Sand and Sea
Carnival-style fun featuring the creation of exotic costumes.
Chats Palace,
Brooksby's Walk, E9 (0181-533 0227). Today, 1pm-6pm; phone for prices.

■ REGIONAL

CLWYD
High Jinks
Activities include crafts, drama and face painting.
Bodelwyddan Castle,
Bodelwyddan (01745 584 563). Today, tomorrow, 10.30am–4pm; £1.25.

DOVER
Summer Holiday Fun Trail
Interactive show including archery and famous names competition.
White Cliffs Experience,
Market Square (01304 210 101). Today, tomorrow, 10am-6.30pm: £3.99-£4.99, four to 14 years £3.50, under four's free.

EDINBURGH
Greyfriars Bobby
Puppet fun, stories and songs.
Netherbow Arts Centre,
High Street (0131-556 9579). Today, 2pm; £3, concs £2.50.

Maisie's Festival Friends
The adventures of Maisie the moggy, plus her pals.
Netherbow Arts Centre,
High Street (0131-556 9579). Today, 11am; £3, concs £2.50.

Winnie the Pooh
Parable Puppet Theatre stages an adaptation of the children's classic.
Netherbow Arts Centre,
High Street (0131-556 9579). Today, 12.30pm; £3, concs £2.50.

ICKENHAM
Contemporary Dance Workshops
Dance workshops leading to a public performance. Ages 12 to 16.
Compass Theatre,
Glebe Avenue (01865 673 200). Today, 9.30am-12.30pm; £20.

LEEDS
Children's Dance Workshop
Salsa, tap and boogie, for eight to 18-year-olds.
Northern School of Contemporary Dance,
Chapeltown Road (0113 262 5359). Today, 9.30am-2.30pm; admission 50p.

LIVERPOOL
Children's Art Week
A range of creative activities for eight to 14-year-olds.
Bluecoat Arts Centre,
Bluecoat Chambers, School Lane (0151-709 5297). Today, times vary; £4-£5 per day.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Children's Gallery
Art, games and educational activities for the under fives.
Laing Art Gallery,
Higham Place (0191-232 7734). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 2pm-5pm: free.

THEATRE

■ LONDON

The Aspern Papers
Michael Redgrave's slightly old-fashioned version of the Henry James tale. With Hannah Gordon, Daniel J. Travanti and Moira Lister.
Wyndhams,
Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tonight, 8.15pm; mat, 5pm.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

BY JEEVES

Anybody whose memory still winces at the ponderous show Alan Ayckbourn and Andrew Lloyd Webber derived from the Drones Club archives back in 1975 will be surprised and delighted by the simple, unpretentious reworking that comes briefly to London via Scarborough. You can watch Bertie hilariously pretending to be a hatstand in order to evade the grim old magistrate, Bassett. And out of the fun come tunes that, had Lloyd Webber been in a less generous mood, might have adorned one of his big, romantic musicals.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

***Duke of York's*,**
St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Tonight, 7.45pm; mat, 3pm.

Dial "M" for Murder
Peter Davison and Catherine Rabett in Frederick Knott's classically ingenious thriller.
Apollo,
Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). In preview tonight, 8pm.

The Tempest
Excellent Denis Quilley plays Prospero in Patrick Garland's production.
Open Air,
Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Tonight, 8pm; mat, 2.30pm. In rep.

London: Catherine Rabett in *Dial "M" for Murder*

■ REGIONAL

CHICHESTER
Hedda Gabler
Harriet Walter in the title role of Ibsen's drama. With David Threlfall, Roy Marsden, Nicholas le Prevost.
Minerva Studio, Oaklands Park (01243 781 312). Tonight, 7.45pm; mat, 2.45pm.

EDINBURGH
Portrait of a Woman
The Scottish theatre company Communicado presents the beguiling true story of one of the most celebrated trials in French legal history.
Traverse Theatre,
Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404). Tomorrow, 8.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON
Crazy for You
Tim Flavin stars in the award-winning West End production of the spectacular Gershwin musical.
Mayflower,
Commercial Road (01703 711 811). Tonight, 7.30pm; mat, 2.30pm.

POP

■ LONDON

Katrina and the Waves
Eighties pop from the *Walking on Sunshine* hitmakers.
The Grand,
Clapham Junction, SW11 (0171-738 9000). Tonight, 8pm; £6-£7.

Hank Wangford
Leading British Country music afficionado.
The Weavers,
Newington Green Road, N1 (0171-226 6911). Tonight, 8.30pm: £5.

■ REGIONAL

ALDERSHOT
The Tremeloes, The Troggs, The Searchers, The Swinging Blue Jeans, Edwin Starr
Sixties concert.
Rushmoor Arena,
(01252 372 041). Tomorrow, 10am; £10, concs £5.

CARDIFF
Big Weekend Festival
James Taylor Quartet, Roberto Pla, Alias Ron Kavana (today), Paul Carrack, Gil Scott-Heron, Raw Stylus, Big Town Playboys (tomorrow).
City Hall Lawns;
(01222 871 922). Today, 1.30pm-10.30pm, tomorrow, 1.15pm-10.30pm; free.

Choice: Martin Okasili

EDINBURGH
Edinburgh Blues Festival — Henry Gray, Mick Martin, Ladies Sings the Blues
Featuring Howling Wolf's pianist Henry Gray (afternoon), and Mother Earth singer Tracy Nelson (evening).
Cavendish,
West Tollcross (0131-228 3252). Today, 2.30pm; £5, 8pm; £10.

LEICESTER
Leicester Live 96
Local bands including Perfume, Vivid, the Melons and Performance.
Abbey Park,
Abbey Road (0116 270 4007). Today, 11am-11pm; £1.

OKEHAMPTON
Dartmoor Folk Festival
Brian Peters and Gordon Tyrrall, Tom McConville, Pauline Cato, Debby McClatchy, Jinks' Stack and more.
South Zeal Playing Fields,
South Zeal (01837 840 162). Today, 9.30am, tomorrow, 9am; £16, day tickets £8.50.

STEVENAGE
Oasis
The Gallagher Brit-rock juggernaut rumbles on; guests include the Prodigy, Manic Street Preachers and Ocean Colour Scene (today), Manic Street Preachers, the Charlatans and Cast (tomorrow).
Knebworth Park,
(0800 614 595). Today, tomorrow, noon; phone for availability.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

MARTIN OKASILI

Material from a provocative forthcoming album, *The Invisible History of the Black Celt*, will form the backbone of this singular talent's set at the Soho niterie. Okasili is 29, of combined Irish/Nigerian parentage, and though born in south London, was brought up in Craigavon, Co Armagh. Lyrical impetus for the LP is the theory that Ireland's original settlers were African, and songs ranging in tone from the quietly evocative to the all-out angry explore this conceit with a suitable freshness of vision. "It's a dark piece of work, but there's a line of hope running through it — the hope of self-discovery," claims the singer, more Luka Bloom than Phil Lynott.

ALAN JACKSON

***Ronnie Scott's*,**
47 Frith Street, London W1 (0171-439 0747).
Tomorrow; doors, 7.30pm, followed by laid-back jazz trio Shiji. Okasili on stage 9pm; £7 in adv, £8 on the door.

JAZZ

■ LONDON

Mose Allison Trio with Jim Mullen
Waggish, lightweight blues veteran from Mississippi, here joined by soul-jazz guitar great Mullen.
Pizza Express,
Dean Street, W1 (0171-439 8722). Tonight, tomorrow, 8pm; £12.50; Fri/Sat £15.

Julian Arguelles Quartet
Former Loose Tubes saxophonist playfully invoking freeform, worldbeat and funk sources with top guitarist Mike Walker.
Vortex,
Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 (0171-254 6516). Tonight, 8pm; £7.

Betty Carter, Tim Garland Quartet
Scat singer from New York, plus former Loose Tubes and Acid Jazz saxist Garland.
Ronnie Scott's,
Frith Street, W1 (0171-439 0747). Tonight, 9pm; £12, members £7.

Ealing Jazz Festival
Featuring Latin veterans Paz, streetwise Jazz Jamaica bassist Gary Crosby, bluesman Al Eastwood and Don Weller and gypsy jazzer Bernie Bloom (today); plus Mardi Gras band Jambalaya, piano/vibes veteran Bill Le Sage and Paul Carmichael's fusion sextet Xtateic (tomorrow).
Ealing Jazz Festival,
Walpole Park,
Mattock Lane, W5 (0181-758 5743). Today, tomorrow, midday-11pm; free.

Stan Tracey Quartet with Gerard Presencer
Grungey piano veteran joins eccentric trumpet prodigy Presencer.
Bull's Head,
Lonsdale Road, SW13 (0181-876 5241). Tonight, 8pm; £6.

■ REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM
Como No — Latin Mania
Salsa 12-piece from Birmingham lead this all-dayer, with Andean band Apu in support.
Ronnie Scott's,
Broad Street (0121-643 4525). Tomorrow, midday-midnight; £16 inc buffet, evening only £10.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

BRECON JAZZ

No festival expresses the convivial spirit of jazz quite as well as this market town gathering. Saxophone wunderkind Joshua Redman and alto elder statesman Phil Woods both perform today, while the late-night slot belongs to the magnificent R & B singer-pianist Charles Brown. Swing veteran Illinois Jacquet rolls in tomorrow, along with Joe Henderson and Chico Freeman.

CLIVE DAVIS

***Various venues*,**
(01874 625557). Today and tomorrow.

BRIDPORT
Candido Fabre and His Son Orchestra
String and flute-heavy Cuban 16-piece dance band.
Bridport Arts Centre,
South Street (01308 427 183). Tonight, 8pm; £6, mems/concs £4.50.

EDINBURGH
Valery Ponomarev Quintet
Moscow-born, New York-based trumpeter, best known for his stints with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, Max Roach and Joe Henderson.
Tron Tavern,
Blair Street (0131-220 1550). Tomorrow, 7.30pm, 3pm; £5.

Gil Scott-Heron
Didactic rhymes from the Tony Benn of jazz-funk.
Queen's Hall,
Clerk Street (0131-668 2019). Tonight, 9pm; £12.50, concs £6-£9.

Nairn: Monty Alexander

NAIRN
Monty Alexander
Bluesy Jamaican piano virtuoso, flirting with reggae on his latest collaboration with guitarist Ernest Ranglin.
Boath House,
Auldearn (01309 674 221). Tonight, 8pm; £9.

Stacey Kent Quintet
Stylish American chanteuse joins tenor-playing husband Jim Tomlinson.
Boath House,
Auldearn (01309 674 221). Tomorrow, 8pm; £9.

CLASSICAL

■ LONDON

English Sinfonia/Hose
Works by Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven.
Kenwood,
Hampstead Lane, NW3 (0171-413 1443). Tonight, 7.30pm; £13.50 and £10.50.

Imrat Khan
A range of Indian music.
Queen Elizabeth Hall,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm; £10-£15.

London: Imrat Khan

Milton Keynes City Orchestra/Davan Wetton
Baroque classics.
Marble Hill House,
Richmond Road, Twickenham (0171-413 1443). Tomorrow, 7.30pm; £11.

National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/Daniel
Gershwin's classic, *An American in Paris*, Varèse's *Amériques* and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*.
Albert Hall,
Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 7.30pm; £4-£18.

Stravinsky Day
The Birmingham Contemporary Music Group performs *The Soldier's Tale* (tomorrow, 4pm; £8); Oliver Knussen conducts Stravinsky's *The Fairy's Kiss* and *The Flood* (tomorrow, 6.30pm; £4-£18); and the Taverner Choir performs *Cantata* and *Mass* for the final concert (tomorrow, 9.30pm; £8).
Albert Hall,
Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tomorrow.

■ REGIONAL

EDINBURGH
The Opening Concert of the Edinburgh International Festival
Donald Runnicles conducts the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and the Edinburgh Festival Chorus in Beethoven's Choral Symphony.
Usher Hall,
Lothian Road (0131-228 1155). Tomorrow, 8pm; £5.50-£35.

GLASGOW
All Souls Orchestra/Tredinnick
Spiritual settings and favourites from the orchestra.
Royal Concert Hall,
Sauchiehall Street (0141-227 5511). Tonight, 7.30pm; £9-£13.

FILMS

Films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

■ NEW RELEASES

AUGUST (PG)
Awkward film of *Uncle Vanya* transferred to Wales in the late 19th century, directed by, and starring, Anthony Hopkins. With Leslie Phillips and Kate Burton.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) *Renoir* (0171-837 8402) *Richmond* (0181-332 0030)

CRITIC'S CHOICE

◆ INDEPENDENCE DAY (12)

Aliens in enormous spaceships are threatening to destroy our world. But American pluck saves the day in this outsize popcorn feast that combines the attributes of sci-fi movie, war movie, monster movie, disaster movie, and video game. Director Roland Emmerich maintains a brisk pace and does not neglect humour, though the movie would have been better if he hadn't mixed up so many genres. With Bill Pullman, Jeff Goldblum and Will Smith.

GEOFF BROWN

***ABC Tottenham Court Road* (0171-636 6148) *Barbican* (0171-638 8891) *Clapham Picture House* (0171-498 3323) *Notting Hill Coronet* (0171-727 6705) *Odeons: Kensington* (01426 914 666) *Leicester Square* (01426 915 683) *Marble Arch* (01426 914 501) *Swiss Cottage* (0171-586 3057) *Rio* (0171-254 6677) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *Screen on Baker Street* (0171-935 2772) *Screen/Green* (0171-226 3520) *UCI Whiteleys* (0171-792 3332) *Virgins: Chelsea* (0171-352 5096) *Fulham Road* (0171-370 2636)**

THE SECRET OF ROAN INISH (PG)
Celtic folk tale with a realistic slant, filmed in Ireland by writer-director John Sayles.
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631) *Clapham Picture House* (0171-498 3323) *Virgin Haymarket* (0171-839 1527) *Warner West End* (0171-437 4343)

◆ THE STUPIDS (PG)
Mirthless comedy about America's stupidest family. With Tom Arnold, Jessica Lundy. Director, John Landis.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) *Swiss Cottage* (01426 914098) *West End* (01426-915 574)

■ CURRENT

◆ FLIPPER (PG)
A surly teenager befriends a dolphin. Unimaginative family film, with Elijah Wood and Paul Hogan.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) *Odeon Swiss Cottage* (01426 914 098) *Plaza* (0990 888990) *UCI Whiteleys* Ⓢ (0990 888 990) *Virgin Fulham Road* (0171-370 2636) *Warner* Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

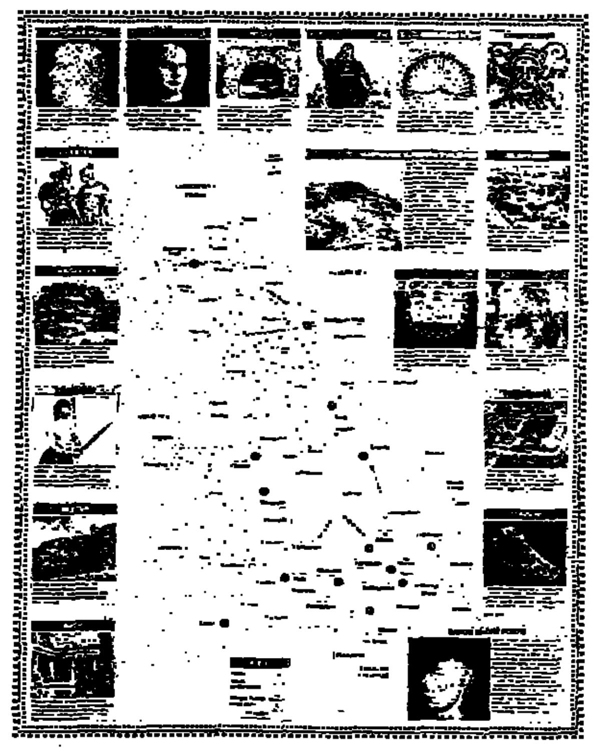
◆ THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (U)
Victor Hugo meets the Disney animators. A perverse, and perversely successful, mix of the cuddly and downbeat. Directors, Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) *Trocadero* Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) *Odeons: Kensington* (01426 914666) *Mezzanine* Ⓢ (01426 915683) *Swiss Cottage* (01426 914 098) *Rio* (0171-254 6677) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *UCI Whiteleys* Ⓢ (0990 888990) *Virgin Chelsea* (0171-352 5096) *Warner* Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH (U)
Mistreated James finds his feet in a peach voyaging across the Atlantic. Excellent animated version of Roald Dahl's book, from the team behind *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) *Gate* (0171-727 4043) *Odeons: Kensington* (01426-914 666) *Swiss Cottage* (0171-586 3057) *West End* (01426-915 574) *Phoenix* (0181-883 2233) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *Screen/Baker Street* (0171-935 2772) *UCI Whiteleys* (0171-792 3332) *Virgin Chelsea* (0171-352 5096)

New release: Will Smith in *Independence Day*

◆ THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS (15)
Pleasant romantic comedy about mistaken identity, with Janeane Garofalo, Uma Thurman, Ben Chaplin.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) *Odeon Kensington* (01426-914 666) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *Screen/Hill* Ⓢ (0171-435 3366) *UCI Whiteleys* Ⓢ (0990 888990) *Virgin Fulham Road* (0171-370 2636) *Warner* (0171-437 4343)

◆ TWISTER (PG)
Cardboard characters chase tornadoes. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt, Bill Paxton. Director, Jan De Bont.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) *Clapham Picture House* (0171-498 3323) *Empire* (0990 888990) *MGMs: Baker Street* (0171-935 9772) *Trocadero* Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) *Odeons: Kensington* (01426 914666) *Swiss Cottage* (01426 914098) *Plaza* Ⓢ (0990 888990) *Rio* (0171-254 6677) *Ritzy* (0171-737 2121) *UCI Whiteleys* Ⓢ (0990 888990) *Virgins: Chelsea* (0171-352 5096) *Fulham Rd* (0171-370 2636)



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GOING OUT

GALLERIES

■ LONDON
Assembling the Family
An exploration of the photographic genre of the family portrait.
National Portrait Gallery,
St Martin's Place, WC2 (0171-306 0055). Today, 10am-6pm, tomorrow, midday-6pm; free.

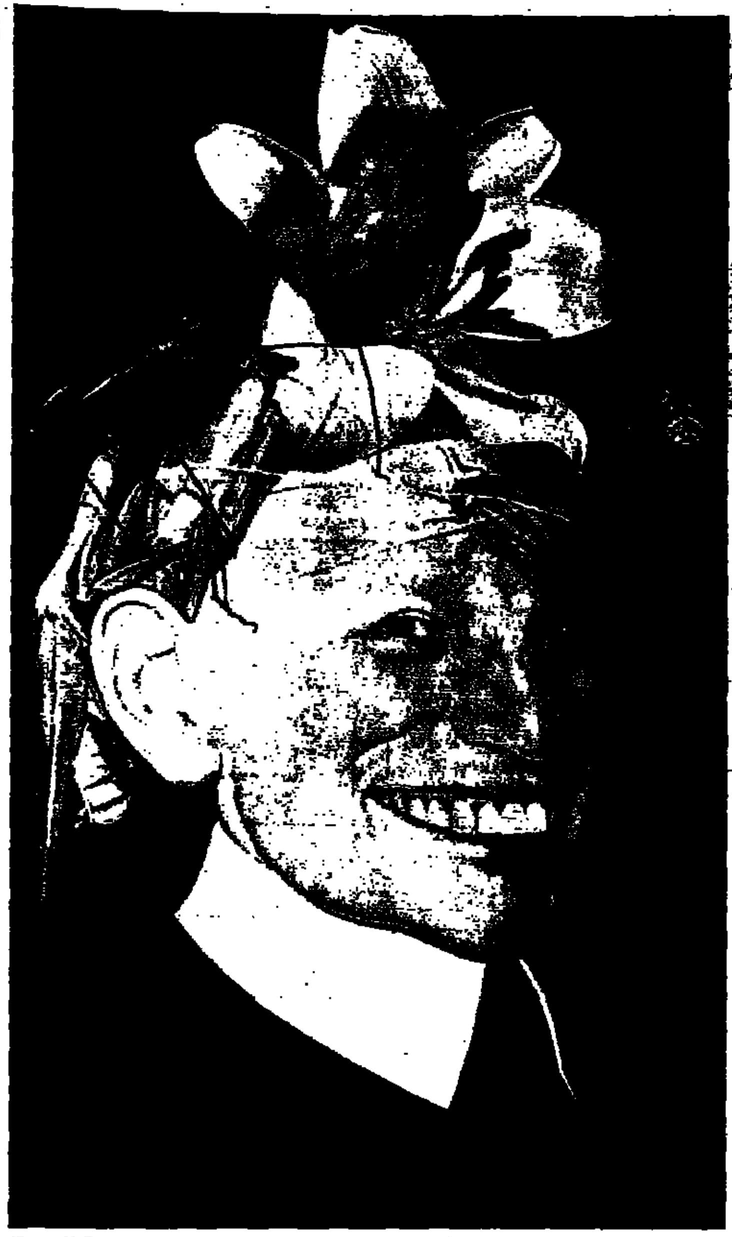
CRITIC'S CHOICE

BP PORTRAIT AWARD 1996
When the BP Portrait Award began at the National Portrait Gallery 15 years ago, the prevailing feeling was one of duty, if not resignation. Nobody seemed really to want to paint portraits, but if that was the way to win prizes and perhaps afterwards make a conservative living, well OK. This year's show of winners and runners-up is a striking index of how attitudes have changed. Clearly the younger, indeed youngest, generation — those recently out of art school — seem to plunge into portraiture with whoops of delight. All three prize-winners and three of the five commended are in their twenties; their styles range from unsparing close-up realism to delicate Post-Impressionism to the sort of picture that Poses a Problem. And if you really want a conundrum in paint, how about Dean Marsh's hallucinatory *The Entomophiliac* (portrait of J.R. concealing a bluebottle under his tongue)?

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

National Portrait Gallery,
St Martin's Place, London WC2 (0171-306 0055). Today, 10am-6pm, tomorrow, midday-6pm; free.

Contemporary Spanish Realists
Comprehensive survey comprising portrait studies and still lifes.
Marlborough Gallery,
Albemarle Street, W1 (0171-629 5161). Today, 10am-12.30pm; free.


Detail from Dean Marsh's *The Entomophiliac* (see Critic's Choice)

Degas: Beyond Impressionism
Sculpture and painting from his later years.
National Gallery,
Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321). Today, 10am-6pm, tomorrow, midday-6pm; £5, concs £3.

Philip-Lorca diCorcia
Acclaimed American photographer freeze-frames Los Angeles characters in heavily staged and ambiguous settings.
Photographers' Gallery,
Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-831 1772). Today, 11am-6pm; free.

William Morris
British designer, radical thinker and poet's life and work.
Victoria and Albert Museum,
Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8500). Today, tomorrow, 10am-5.30pm; £5.50, concs £3.25.

■ REGIONAL

BRIDPORT
Anthony Caro
Figure drawings by abstract sculptor.
Bridport Arts Centre,
South Street (01308 427 183). Today, 10am-4pm; free.

DARLINGTON
Eileen Cooper
Graphic works and lithographs exploring the female nude and notions of gender.
Myles Meehan Gallery,
Vane Terrace (01325 483 271). Today, 10am-6pm; free.

EDINBURGH
Alberto Giacometti
Large-scale retrospective by one of art's greats.
Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art,
Belford Road (0131-556 8921). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 11am-5pm; £4, concs £2.50.

Henry Moore
Lithographs and etchings.
Edinburgh Printmakers,
Union Street (0131-557 2479). Today, 10am-6pm; free.

George Rodger
The late George Rodger's award-winning work on Africa for *Life* magazine.
Royal Scottish Academy,
The Mound (0131-225 6671). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 2pm-5pm; £4, concs £2.50.

Eduardo Paolozzi
New sculptural work.
Talbot Rice Gallery,
University of Edinburgh, South Bridge (0131-650 2211). Today, 10am-5pm, tomorrow, 2pm-5pm; free.

KENDAL
Lucian Freud
Exhibition of paintings and etchings by figurative artist.
Abbot Hall Art Gallery,
Abbot Hall (01539 722464). Today, tomorrow, 10.30am-5pm; £2.50, concs £1.90.

NOTTINGHAM
Sokari Douglas Camp
Sculpture exploring gender, nature and culture.
Angel Row Gallery,
Angel Row (0115-947 6334). Today, 11am-6pm; free.

ST IVES
Mark Rothko in Cornwall
Redefining Rothko's work.
St Ives Tate Gallery,
Porthmeor Beach (01736 796 226). Today, 11am-7pm, tomorrow, 11am-5pm; £3, concs £1.50.

COMING SOON

■ LONDON
Oct 3-Nov 30
Fool for Love
Ian Brown directs a new production for the Donmar Warehouse of Sam Shepard's love story set at the edge of the Mojave desert. Box office: 0171-369 1732.

From Oct 4
Art
Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott star in a new play by Yasmina Reza which was a recent hit in Paris. Translated by Christopher Hampton and directed by Matthew Warchus, it opens at Wyndham's Theatre. Box office: 0171-369 1736.

Oct 10-Nov 9
Mojo
The Royal Court moves to the Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, during rebuilding, opening its season with a revival of Jez Butterworth's Sloane Square hit. Box office: 0171-730 1745/2554.

■ REGIONAL

BRISTOL
Oct 17-Nov 9
Old Wicked Songs
Bob Hoskins stars in a new play, directed by Elijah Moshinsky, opening at the Bristol Old Vic prior to the West End. Box office: 0117-987 7877.

GUILDFORD
Aug 17-18
Folk and Blues Festival
Among those taking part are Peter Green (formerly with Fleetwood Mac), Shane MacGowan and the Popes, and Eddi Reader, at Stoke Park. Box office: 01483 454159.

NOTTINGHAM
Sep 12-Oct 12
Popcorn
Laurence Boswell directs the stage premiere of Ben Elton's latest at Nottingham Playhouse. Box office: 0115-941 9419.

Tom Courtenay, Ken Stott and Albert Finney star in Art

DANCE

■ LONDON
Blitz '96: Concrete Jungle
Double bill staging jazz and contemporary dance in a dance club setting.
Ballroom, Main Foyer, Festival Hall,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Today, 12.15pm-1.30pm (Showcase 1), tonight, 6pm-7.15pm (Showcase 2); free.

Blitz '96: Dance North East!
North East's youth groups present a collection of new and well-known dance works.
Ballroom, Main Foyer, Festival Hall,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow, 2pm; free.

Blitz '96: New Work North
Exciting work from up and coming Northern choreographers.
Ballroom, Main Foyer, Festival Hall,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow, 6pm; free.

Blitz '96: Passage to Passion
Focus on the emotional experiences of a group spanning three generations, choreographed by Liv Lorent.
Ballroom, Main Foyer, Festival Hall,
South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tomorrow, 4.30pm; free.

Kate Brown: Collective
An exploration of the collective motion of the audience, plus improvisation and synchronisation from Kate Brown.
Turtle Key Arts Centre,
Farm Lane, SW6 (0171-385 4905). Tonight, 8pm; £6, concs £4.

Lord of the Dance
Michael Flatley, of *Riverdance* fame, choreographs this new Celtic mystic dance extravaganza.
London Coliseum,
St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300). Today, 2.30pm and 7.45pm; £10-£32.50.

Mosaics '96: Bimba

Mosaics '96: Bimba
Traditional South Indian dance merges with the conceptual to address the rhyme and reason of love.
Jackson's Lane Community Centre,
Archway Road, N6 (0181-341 4421). Tonight, 8pm; £6, concs £4.50.

■ REGIONAL

CRITIC'S CHOICE

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP
This American troupe has become a hot favourite at the Edinburgh Festival over the years, and with good cause. Morris is an outstandingly musical choreographer and his dancers are intelligent performers. He brings a mixed bill to the festival, including *Behemoth*, danced (unusually for Morris) to silence, and the world premiere of *I Don't Want to Love* (to Monteverdi madrigals), to celebrate the fiftieth festival.

DEBRA CRAINE

Edinburgh Festival Theatre,
Mon-Tues, 7.30pm, Wed, 2pm, 7.30pm.

COMEDY

■ LONDON
Banana Cabaret
With Mandy Knight, Steve Gribbin, Rob Hitchmough and Paul Rogan.
Banana Cabaret, The Bedford,
Bedford Hill, SW12 (0181-673 1756). Tonight, 9pm; £6, concs £4.

Comedy Store: Best in Stand-Up
Lee Hurst MCs for Simon Bligh, Paul Thorne, Martin Coyote and Simon Lipson.
Comedy Store,
Oxendon Street, SW1 (01426 914 433). Tonight, 8pm and midnight: £10.

Hampstead Clinic
With Neville Raven, Andre Vincent, Paul Vallis and Kevin Kopfstein.
The Washington,
Englands Lane, NW3 (0171-483 3647). Today, 8pm; £6, concs £5.

Jongleurs Comedy
The Tracy Brothers, Kevin Hayes, Tim Clark, Michael Smimely and Sean Meo.
Jongleurs Comedy Camden Lock,
Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-924 2766). Tonight, 7.15pm and 11.15pm; £10, concs £7.

■ REGIONAL
EDINBURGH FESTIVAL
Highlights include:
Armstrong and Miller — The Quality Shag
Sketches and gags.
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Tonight, tomorrow, 5pm; £6.50, concs £5.50.

Stand Up Black Britain
With Gina Yashere, Roger D. John Simmit and Junior Simpson.
Gilded Balloon Theatre,
Cowgate (0131-226 2151). Tonight, tomorrow, 10.30pm; £6.50, concs £5.50.

Simon Bligh
New anecdotes from one of 1995's Perrier nominees.
Assembly Rooms,
George Street (0131-226 2428). Tonight, tomorrow, 11.30pm: £7.50, concs £6.50.

Scott Capurro — The Doctor is On
Return of one of 1995's Perrier nominees with his own brand of humour.
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Tonight, tomorrow, 9.45pm; £7.50, concs £6.50.

Jenny Eclair (Wig On, Teeth In)
The bleached-blonde queen of comedy and Perrier's 1995 winner is back with a new set.
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Tonight, tomorrow, 9.20pm; £8, concs £7.

Annabel Giles
The wonders of household star Giles never cease.
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Tonight, tomorrow, 6.45pm; £7.50, concs £6.

Fred MacAulay
Scottish comedy.
Gilded Balloon Theatre, Cowgate (0131-226 2151). Tonight, tomorrow, 9pm; £7, concs £6.

Men's Style and Fitness
Neil Mullarkey offers hot tips for the dapper man.
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Today, tomorrow, 5.45pm; £6, concs £5.

Greg Proops
Resident Stateside star of *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*
Pleasance,
The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Tonight, tomorrow, 8.15pm; £7.50, concs £6.50.

Sandi Toksvig
A unique brand of cutting humour.
Assembly Rooms,
George Street (0131-226 2428). Tonight, tomorrow, 6pm; £8, concs £7.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL
Here it comes, the annual invasion of stand-ups hoping to get headhunted and battling for the Perrier Award. Hot tips from more than 250 comedy shows include the guitar-twanging bearded weirdo Bill Bailey at the Assembly Rooms, Ed Byrne and Ardal O'Hanlon at the *Gilded Balloon* and, at the Pleasance, pseudo-angry Alan Parker, Mark Maier and Dylan Moran, master of inspired irrelevancies.

KATE BASSETT

***Assembly Rooms,* George Street (0131-226 2428); *Gilded Balloon,* Cowgate (0131-226 2151); *Pleasance,* The Pleasance (0131-556 6550). Call for details.**

OPERA

■ LONDON
Il Barbiere di Siviglia
Opera Europa stage this classic comedy by Rossini.
Holland Park Theatre,
Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-602 7856). Tonight, 7.30pm, mat. 2.30pm; £20, concs £14.50.

■ REGIONAL

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ERMIONE
Rossini's years-ahead-of-its-time setting of Racine's *Andromaque* was a complete flop in Naples in 1819 and withdrawn after a single performance. It only resurfaced recently, was a resounding success in Graham Vick's production at Glyndebourne last year, and is back again with largely the same cast: Anna Caterina Antonacci, Diana Montague, Paul Austin Kelly and Paul Nilon. Andrew Davis is the conductor.

RODNEY MILNES

Glyndebourne,
near Lewes, East Sussex (01273 813813). Tonight, 5.55pm; £10-£110.

BUXTON
Ruddigore
As Buxton's Gilbert and Sullivan festival finishes, D'Oyly Carte headlines the finale performance.
Buxton Opera House,
Water Street (01298 72190). Tonight, 7.30pm; £10-£16.

The Barber of Seville

The Yeoman of the Guard
Staged by the South Anglia Savoy Players.
Buxton Opera House,
Water Street (01298 72190). Tomorrow, 7.30pm; £8.50-£11.50.

LEWES
Arabella
Dietfried Bernet conducts Strauss's and Hofmannsthal's final collaboration.
Glyndebourne,
(01273 813813). Tomorrow, 4.15pm: £10-£110.

LINBY
Die Fledermaus
Johann Strauss's comic operetta.
Newstead Abbey,
A60, near Ravenshead (0115-948 2626). Tonight, 7.30pm; £14 and £16.

GARDENS

WEST SUSSEX
Standen, East Grinstead
In the year celebrating the centenary of William Morris's death it is fitting to visit a garden with which the Victorian artist and craftsman was closely associated during the last years of his life. Standen's then owners, Mr and Mrs Beales, asked Morris to recommend an architect for their proposed new house in the Weald, with views across the Medway valley to Crowborough Beacon. Morris suggested his friend Philip Webb, and Webb in turn suggested that the Beales should use Morris's company for much of the interior decoration. One of Standen's most beguiling qualities is the contrast between the expansive, almost grandiose views, and the intimacy of the garden's different enclosures — typically Arts and Crafts in their variety and intimacy. From September 11-15 there will be a Morris centenary celebration.
Two miles south of East Grinstead off B2110 (01342 323029). Open April-Oct, Wed-Sun and Bank Hol Mon. 12.30-6pm (last entry 5pm); £3, children £1.50.

SCOTLAND
Inverewe, Poolewe, Ross and Cromarty
The 60-plus acres of Inverewe realise the British ideal of combining superb plants from overseas with a dramatic natural landscape. The herbaceous borders in the walled garden in front of the house are conventional enough, but the paths that lead off into the larger areas reveal a different story. Certainly it is difficult to imagine that in 1862, when Osgood Mackenzie came to live at Inverewe, the peninsula, known as Am Ploc Ad in Gaelic, was nothing more than rock and peat bog facing out to the north Atlantic. At this time of year the garden is hanging with different foliage, including one of my favourites, *Dicksonia antarctica*, the tree fern from New Zealand, making the background for banks of hydrangeas and clusters of lilies. Few gardens can boast a similar collection of ornamental trees and late-summer flowering ones.
Six miles northeast of Gairloch on A832 (01445 781200). Open daily all year, 9.30am-9pm; £3.60, children £2.40.

DEVON
Glebe Cottage,
Pixie Lane, Warkleigh, Umberleigh
Few nurseries have bettered Carol Klein's tempting arrays of plants that have brought successive gold medals at the Chelsea Show in the past five years. The haven that produces the plants is hidden away in the north Devon countryside and tomorrow is one of the few occasions that both the nursery and the delightful cottage garden next door are open on a Sunday (for the NGS). Corners of the cheerful, informally arranged garden reveal a host of unusual perennials jostling together, while in the nursery they are presented in more orderly fashion, for purchase. More than anything, Glebe Cottage does a lot to explain why perennials are so popular.
Six miles west of South Molton via B3226 (01769 540 554). Open Aug 11, 18 and Sept 29, 2-5pm; £1.50, children free. Nursery open Tue-Fri, April-Oct.

LANCASHIRE
Catforth Gardens, Roots Lane, Catforth, Preston
The arrangement at Catforth is another good example of the combined enjoyment of a nursery and garden. The three gardens display most of the plants offered for sale. The appearance of the Bungalow, the Farmhouse and the Paddock gardens are all different, and the planting has been organised for both colour effect and combinations, and for the association of plants of similar scale. Catforth has one of the National Council for the Preservation of Plants and Gardens' (NCCPG) national collections of hardy geraniums, but different salvias, tradescantias, euphorbias and phlox are examples of what else can be admired at this time of year.
Five miles northwest of Preston, south off B5269 into Catforth village (01772 690561/ 690269). Nursery and gardens open daily from Mar 15-Sept 16, 10.30am-5pm; £2, accompanied children 50p.

GEORGE PLUMPTRE

FAIRS

■ LONDON
Carters Royal Berkshire Steam Fair
Established steam funfair staged this weekend in north London, and featuring Rock and Roll Dodgems and tonight's grand firework display.
Albert Road Recreation Ground,
Albert Road, N22 (01628 822 221). Today, 2pm-11pm, tomorrow, 2pm-9pm; phone for event prices.

The Great British Beer Festival
More than 300 British beers and 180 international brands to sup on the last day of the celebrated fest.
Olympia, Grand Hall,
Hammersmith Road, W14 (0171-603 3344). Ends today, 11.30am-7pm; £1-£4.50.

Lambeth Mela
Big event with an Asian theme featuring a funfair, stalls, theatre, live bands and workshops.
Streatham Common, SW16 (0171-926 0168).
Today, tomorrow, 2.30pm-7.30pm; free.

London Book Fair
Diverse antiquarian, secondhand and rare books.
Hotel Russell,
Russell Square, WC1 (0171-837 6478). Tomorrow, 2pm-7pm; free.

The Lambeth Mela

Streets of London Festival
Ilford (today) and Kingston (tomorrow) stage street theatre performances, featuring Risky in Pink, Crocodile Style (today), and Circus Fudge.
Various venues,
Canary Wharf, E14 (01273 821 588). Today, tomorrow, phone for details.

■ REGIONAL

EDINBURGH
International, Fringe and Film Festivals
Begins tomorrow with a bonanza of events.
Various venues,
International festival 0131-225 5756; fringe 0131-226 5257/59; film 0131-228 4051.

Ruth Gledhill joins Catholic charismatics on a pilgrimage to Walsingham

In the footsteps of Henry VIII

TO PUT the words "Catholic" and "charismatic" together sounds like a marriage of opposites, but reported figures of 100 million charismatic Roman Catholics worldwide suggests that this marriage might work. More than 2,000 descended this week on Walsingham, England's national Marian shrine in Norfolk, to pray, sing, talk and enjoy the "gifts of the Holy Spirit".

We sat on the grass in the blazing sunshine by the ruins of the Priory church founded on land given by Richeldis, lady of the manor of Walsingham and a young widow. The altar, beneath a tabernacle sheltering 40 priests from around the world, was on the spot where in 1061 Richeldis built the little Holy House, which she believed to be a replica of Mary's house in Nazareth. Throughout the medieval era and to this day, after a powerful revival in the 1930s, Walsingham has been the focus of English devotion to Mary.

Strong passions are still aroused by Walsingham, and each year anti-Marian Protestant protesters turn out to object to the national pilgrimage to the Anglican shrine. No such scenes marred our Mass on the day of the Feast of the Transfiguration, the event recalled in three gospels when the face of Jesus was said to have shone like the sun as he prayed on a high mountain, and when Moses and Elijah were reported to have appeared alongside him.

The charismatics had, for the most part, left their shoes in the Slipper Chapel, the 14th-century chapel where pilgrims to the medieval shrine traditionally removed their shoes to walk the last mile barefoot. Although the Catholic shrine is now in the Slipper Chapel, many pilgrims still choose to walk the ancient mile to and from the village, praying the rosary along a path trod by many kings and queens of England, including Henry VIII, who went on to authorise the Augustinian priory's destruction in 1538.

The charismatic Catholics were there on a week-long pilgrimage, camping out in fields around the Slipper Chapel and enjoying healing services, prayer, praise and daily Mass. The event, titled "New Dawn", is one of the biggest to take place at Walsingham. The founder, Myles Dempsey, of the Prince of Peace community and retired from his secular employment in the construction industry, said: "Charism is a Greek word meaning gift and the gift of God is the Holy Spirit. When we talk about being charismatic we are talking about people who are influenced by the Holy Spirit, affected by the Holy Spirit and even more filled by the Holy Spirit. Many people, when they are prayed with, experience the power of the Holy Spirit and they discover that they are able to do things for the church that they never thought they were able to do before." The gifts, listed in the Bible, include prophecy, healing, teaching, preaching and speaking in tongues.

Prayers were interjected with songs, or simply the word "Amen" sung over and over again, with worshippers raising hands to the skies, closing their eyes and swaying to the soft guitar music.

For a few minutes, as the Mass was ended, a remarkable stillness descended on Walsingham. Then the atmosphere was truly transfigured as rain descended and lightning flashed in streaks across the cut corn as the pilgrims walked the mile-long path back to their tents.

● *Our Lady of Walsingham Anglican Shrine: The Shrine Office, Walsingham, Norfolk, NR22 6EZ (01328 820255); Roman Catholic Shrine: Pilgrim Bureau, Friday Market Place, Walsingham, NR22 6EG (01328 820217). Prince of Peace Community (01462 895322)*

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ARCHITECTURE: Only a beautiful remnant remains, but that is beautiful. ★

SERMON: Mgr Chris O'Donnell preached on the Transfiguration. ★★★★

MUSIC: Popular worship songs from the Walsingham Song Book. ★★★

LITURGY: Standard Catholic Mass but with a more informal feel due to outdoor setting. ★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Proof that buildings can be immaterial to a church. ★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Chance to buy Marian memorabilia, icons, golden angels, spiritual poems and Walsingham chocolate in gift shops around the Priory. Dozens of clergy on hand for informal chat. ★★

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هكذا من الاصل

Europe: Brass bands and beer at the Munich Oktoberfest, Bavarian art and culture; plus travel tips

Only Australians left standing

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Munich

In October the streets of Munich are alive with the sound of clinking glasses. This is Oktoberfest, when for 16 days the Bavarians dress in forest green — the men in *lederhosen*, the women in dirndl skirts — to knock back litre steins of ice-cold beer while stomping their feet or linking arms and swaying *(Das Schunkein)* to the oom-pahpah of brass bands.

It is all great fun. I say that as one who is not by choice a beer drinker. But, yes, if you press me, I will have another. The carnival spirit is infectious, not least because the *Müncheners* have achieved the art of managing large numbers of people (at the height of the festivities the city population of one million-plus more than doubles) without being officious. The drinkers are good humoured, the mood is of a family get-together, and visitors are welcomed like old friends. Over three days last year I saw not a single punch up; just a few over-enthusiastic imbibers taken off on stretchers.

Maybe it's the tradition that counts. It was, after all, the 162nd beer festival to be held in Munich, where they have been brewing like mad for 600 years. What started as a monastic sideline (the Augustine brewery is Munich's oldest) was taken up by the Bavarian dukes as a bountiful source of tax revenue which had the added value of keeping their subjects happy. Today, there are six big breweries pouring out 5.6 million hectolitres (about 123 million gallons) a year.

Oktoberfest has its own site, known as the Theresienwiese, or simply the Wies'n. It is here that six gigantic beer tents, one for each brewery, house the ranks of benches and trestle tables. In the centre of each tent is a garlanded bandstand. At around noon, the crowds move in, the beer taps are turned on, the bands start to play and the air is filled with the all-pervading smell of beer, boiled sausage and grilled chicken; except for the Spatenbrau tent, where they offer roast ox — up to a 100 of the beasts will turn on the spit before the Oktoberfest is over.

NETWORK

The atmosphere at the Oktoberfest is good humoured and visitors are welcome. The beer is served in litre steins and over-enthusiastic imbibers are taken away on stretchers

One tent has a standing section for young Australians winding up their European tour. Why they cannot sit down like everyone else is a mystery that the city's tourist office has not thought fit to investigate. Other nationalities follow the German custom of grabbing a place or grabbing someone else's seat if they are foolish enough to leave it for ten seconds.

Orders for beer or food are shouted, in various languages, to a dedicated band of waitresses who move between the tables like jugglers, carrying multilayers of plates and tankards. The advantage is with those customers who have strong voices, and even stronger bladders.

If the brass bands are the draw — and these are real professionals, who can transform a 1,000 audience into a heart-lifting mass choir — the time to be there is mid-afternoon, when traditional drinking songs are bashed out. In the evening they are just as likely to strike up with Andrew Lloyd Webber selections, or some other musical incongruity.

Serious beer drinkers should note that the famous Oktoberfest beer, darker and stronger than the rest, is not served at the Weis'n. This is because the appeal of the carnival processions (led by brewery drays and surmounted by colourfully clad females), and of the funfair with its stomach-churning thrills, spans the ages. So it is only sensible to limit the strength, if not the flow, of the alcohol.

On the other hand, the powerful brew is readily on tap outside the festival site at bars and beer gardens. Why "gardens", by the way? The answer is simple. In the days before refrigeration, cellars were built into the banks of the River Isar to keep the beer cool in the summer. Even then the Germans knew what British publicans still have trouble grasping — that the only good lager is cold lager.

The beer gardens come in all sizes. The largest can serve up to 5,000 customers at a sitting. Picnickers are generally welcome but, where you see the sign *Selbstbedienung* (self-service), you will be expected to buy beer and food at one of the *Schanke* (kiosks). Tables with cloths over them signify *Keine Selbstbedienung* or full service. A traditional beer garden menu includes pretzels, salted mackerel and *Obatzda*, a spread of Camembert, paprika and butter, accompanied by a stein or two of Munich's best.

But enough of this bucolic jollity. There is more to see in Munich than the bottom of a beer mug. One of the busiest commercial centres in central Europe and Germany's premiere tourist city, Munich is strong on cultural attractions. This is thanks largely to the sophistication of the Wittelsbachs, who ruled Bavaria for 700 years up to the end of the 19th century, with the first King Ludwig, "Prince of the Muses", hitting a high spot in the mid-1800s with the building of the Glyptothek, the museum of classical sculpture, and the Old Pinakothek, home to a superb collection of European old masters. With the Old Pinakothek under renovation until 1997, the finest paintings, including works by Dürer, Rembrandt, Rubens and Da Vinci have been moved next door to the new Pinakothek, which specialises in 19th-century artists. These collections rival the best on offer anywhere in Europe.

With about 50 museums and 150 art galleries, the agony is in choosing priorities. The biggest are not necessarily the most fascinating. Within easy walking distance of the Pinakotheks, near Konigsplatz, is the Lenbachhaus, a late 19th-century Italian villa, once the home of Franz von Lenbach, an "artist-prince" whose work is on public view in rooms that he designed.

But the chief interest of the Lenbachhaus is in the collection of modern art, with early Kandinsky and others of the Blue Rider group — Klee, Marc, Munter.

At the heart of Munich is Marienplatz, the centre of the Old Town, largely rebuilt after the Second World War with a skill that leaves the joins between old and new almost invisible. The best shops are a few steps away as are many of the tourist-trail sights, such as the 15th-century cathedral, with its bulbous towers, twin symbols of Gothic splendour. The interior is simplicity as a fine art, with white walls accentuating the height of the nave and focusing on the great cross suspended over the altar steps.

Munich is not short of hotels, but the popularity of the city for big occasions — the Oktoberfest is rivalled by the summer Opera Festival and the Christmas Market — means that some weekends are booked up quickly and early. Then again, a weekend during the Oktoberfest can be a little overpowering. Better to go midweek, when there is just as much fun but fewer people.

Alternatively, start beyond Munich with a short tour of the Bavarian lakes or the fairytale Alpine castles of Ludwig II, patron of Richard Wagner and, in his architectural extravagances, an inspiration for the wilder flights of the composer's imagination. It says much for Munich that it is in no way outclassed by this rural idyll.

BARRY TURNER

- *The author was a guest of Lufthansa Airlines and of the Maritim Hotel.*

WORLD PICTURES

Brass bands play Bavarian tunes and Lloyd Webber

MUNICH FACT FILE

■ Lufthansa Airlines (0345 737747) flies to Munich daily from London from £152 return. The Maritim Hotel, Goethestrasse 7, 80336 Munich (00 49 89 552350) offers a *three-night break from £168 per person. For further* information on Maritim Hotels, contact 0171-357 0670.

■ Travelscene (0181-427 4445) offers two-night breaks in Munich from £290 during September and October.

■ Top Deck is offering trips to the Oktoberfest from £169 per person. The six and nine-day bus and camping holidays depart on September 19 and 30.

WEEKEND BREAKS

■ Lille. France's third city has entered short-break specialist Travelscene's (0181-427 8800) top 20 cities league as a result of the direct two-hour Eurostar service. Although the top ten is still dominated by Paris, Amsterdam and Italian and Spanish cities, Dublin, Monte Carlo, Nice and Budapest have made their first appearance in the charts. Sample prices: three nights B&B in Lille by Eurostar £161 and 3 nights B&B by air to Budapest from £275-£355.

■ A three-night stay in the Hanseatic city of Lubeck, accommodation with breakfast, return flights from Heathrow to Hamburg and then by rail costs £364 in October and November. Dresden, the so-called Florence of the Elbe, is offered over the same period for £417, with scheduled flights, both from Moswin Tours (0116-271 9922).

■ Holidaymakers wishing to discover the crumbling, nostalgic Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, before it is covered with a rash of pizza parlours and hamburgers joints (the first McDonald's only arrived this year), can spend a weekend there with Regent Holidays (0171-921 1711) from £199 for three nights B&B and flights. Weekends in Riga and Tallinn cost from £330.

The Arena in Verona with Citalia

■ City specialists Time Off (0171-235 8070) offers a range of Celebration Cities by Eurostar, for honeymooners, anniversary couples and anyone seeking a romantic venue; a Paris Belle Epoque break includes two nights in Paris for £246 (one night £188) staying at the Hotel Terminus Nord just yards from the Eurostar station, buffet breakfast, a three-course dinner with aperitif, wine and coffee at the atmospheric Brasserie; Paris Opera for £358 for two nights, with accommodation at the four-star Pavillon Bastille, includes breakfast, a ticket to the opera a few yards from the hotel, pre-opera drinks, free Metro tickets and, during August when there is no opera, a third night at the hotel.

■ The currently fashionable city of Dublin can be enjoyed economically with Leger Holidays (01709 839839) on two-night weekend coach breaks from the November 8 to mid-December costing £109 per person (from 200 UK pick-up points), two nights B&B, evening entertainment and a visit to Avoca — also known as *Ballykissangel*.

■ Some of the lesser-known but enchanting Italian cities such as Verona, Sienna, Amalfi, Padua and Assisi are included in Citalia's (01235 824354) City Break brochure offering 25 cities. Magic of Italy (0181-748 7575) has introduced the two-centre combination of Rome and Sicily's Taormina, where a week B&B costs £443.

JILL CRAWSHAW

TRAVEL DIRECTORY

OMAN

A drive through the sand dunes with help from Bedouin

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MACAU

Eat like a film star as the colony prepares to revert to China

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SCOTLAND

Walks in the Hebrides and watching wildlife in Flow Country

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TRAVEL TIPS, PAGE 18

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Oman: An exhilarating and hazardous drive through the sand dunes with a little help from the Bedouin

An Arabian night with the desert's hidden face

We leave the main road and head towards the town of Ibri on smaller, winding roads which take us past searing rock formations, squeezed up millions of years ago from the bed of the ocean, and on through the eastern Hajar mountains.

This extraordinary, harsh landscape is broken occasionally by lush green date plantations, watered by *aflaj*, an ancient but the highly effective system of irrigation canals brought to Oman by the Persians some 1,000 years ago. Once through the mountains, the terrain becomes flat. Apart from the occasional car or pick-up, this rocky moonscape seems eerily void of life. We are an hour's drive from Mintirib, the village at the northernmost edge of one of the world's most breathtaking deserts, the Wahiba Sands.

When we arrive at Mintirib it is already getting dark. We stop at the petrol station to fill up and to let a good deal of air out of the tyres — this will prevent the wheels sinking into the soft sands ahead.

With more than 1,000 miles of coastline, year-round sunshine, and natural phenomena such as the Hoti caves and Wadi Nakhl (Oman's own Grand Canyon), the sultanate has a lot of potential as a tourist destination. The government wants only the well-to-do, however. Backpackers are not encouraged.

Past Mintirib, the tarmac comes to an end. Ahead lies more than 100 miles of sandy wilderness. The idea of crossing the desert in a 4x4 and sleeping under the stars is one I had always associated with Timberland boots, three-day beard growth and, well . . . younger people. The prospect of doing it with my father took the edge off the initial thrill. It shouldn't have. The five-day trip across some of the most dramatic scenery in the world is about as exhilarating as it gets. As long as you have a reliable 4x4 — two, in fact, for safety — age is really not that relevant. What is important is that at least one driver knows how to handle a vehicle in sand. If both vehicles get stuck, it's probably not the end of the line, but it can be a long, hot wait until a helpful Bedouin comes along.

Sleeping out in the desert is quite unnerving. Apart from the occasional Bedouin haring through in a pickup — the preferred mode of desert transport these days — the desert is completely silent at night. Surprisingly, this is not at all conducive to peaceful sleep, but it is a good opportunity to take in the spectacle of the desert sky by night and to contemplate — a humbling experience.

It is evident the next morning that there have been night visitors. The dunes, properly visible for the first time in the morning light, roll gracefully into the distance. There are a few scrubby plants but basically it looks like fairly uninhabitable terrain. The unusual, regular patterns all around, however, indicate that there has been a good deal of silent, night-time activity.

The Wahiba Sands actually support a considerable number of plants and animals. A Royal Geographical Society study carried out in 1986 discovered that this relatively small area is home to over 150 species of plants and a remarkable ecosystem which survives on dew. On the eastern edge of the Sands, a forest of dew-collecting *ghai* trees sustains no less than 200 species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. We will be heading southwards to the village of Shana'a. From there we plan to take one of the small ferries across to the island of Masirah.

With the air-conditioning switched off to conserve petrol, there is a long, sweaty, but exciting drive ahead. Tackling the steep dunes requires a good deal of momentum and high revs. If you get stuck, you reverse back down and try again. If you get stuck on the flat, in soft sand, you have no choice but to dig yourself out. Three hours into the journey I manage to get stuck in a bowl of very soft sand between two high-sided dunes. After an hour of struggling, it seems the only option is to leave the car and go on in one vehicle. At that point, we notice a robed figure, hazy in the midday heat, coming silently towards us. It is a Bedouin who has noticed my father's empty car at the top of the dune and has come to investigate. We share no language, but our situation doesn't require much explanation. He lets the tyres down even further, gets in the car and drives it straight out.

My father asks later if I had noticed that the Bedouin had a pager attached to his robes. It wasn't entirely surprising. Oman enjoys the trappings of modernity and development without sacrificing its cultural identity. In the city I had seen Omanis emerging from a day's work at Muscat's stock exchange, dressed in the traditional flowing robes, camel stick in hand.

This surprisingly happy marriage of old and new is in no small part due to the emphasis that Sultan Qaboos bin Said — absolute ruler of the country since 1970 — has placed on retaining the country's traditions. In 26 years, Oman has experienced the sort of change that normally takes hundreds of years. Omanis seem to have emerged from this extraordinary time-leap with a fairly clear sense of who they are. There are young Omanis who prefer jeans and baseball caps to the *dishdash* and *massar* (the traditional robe and turban), but they are a rebellious minority.

We spend one more night in the desert and drive early next morning to Shana'a. The ferry station consists of a few shacks around a concrete jetty. Robed Bedouin men wait patiently by their pickup-trucks for the morning ferry, and children play around the porch of a makeshift café. The thick mist is starting to clear and the ferry can now be seen, easing its way towards the jetty.

The ferry loads, turns, and sets out on its lumbering course back to Masirah. Women, dressed in black and wearing the traditional *burqa*, a pointed leather mask, emerge from the pickups and make themselves comfortable on mats laid out on the deck.

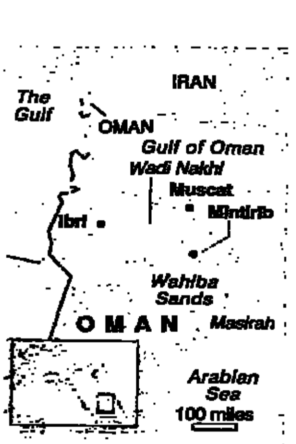
Hammond Innes, who visited Masirah in the 1950s, described the island in *A Harvest of Journeys*: "A lonely handful of RAF men, a thousand Arab fisherfolk, a few miles of desert — there wasn't much else. And yet somehow it had an atmosphere vaguely hostile, strangely disturbing." As we approach the island, a young Omani, who has studied English in Hastings, asks if I have heard the story of the crew of a shipwrecked British vessel who were massacred on the island.

We disembark and drive through a township of ragged houses. Half an hour's drive brings us to a beautiful unspoiled beach: miles of white, sand and turquoise sea. We don't have to hunt for a quiet spot — there is no one else. Over the next two days the only people we see are a handful of local fishermen. One comes to visit on the first evening and gives us two fat lobsters. Payment is offered but refused. The next day a young man wearing only a loincloth brings us a fresh sea-bass. He too refuses payment.

It's not clear what happened when the crew of the *SS Baron Innerdale* landed on Masirah in 1904 except that they were met by a group of islanders. Something made one of the crew draw a pistol and fire a shot, and in the scuffle that followed, all the crew, apart from a ship's boy, were slaughtered. Today's islanders, however, are a good deal more welcoming. Where else would complete strangers be plied with lobster?

Both the RAF and the BBC have had people stationed on Masirah for years, so it's not quite the virgin wilderness that Thesiger describes in *Arabian Sands*. Off-road, however, the country is still about as wild and dramatic as you can get without putting your life on the line.

LUKE MARTIN



FACT FILE

- Eastravel (01473 214305) organise self-drive safaris to Oman from £740, including return flights from London or Manchester, four days unlimited mileage in a Toyota 4 Runner, and five *nights twin or double* accommodation with breakfast.
- Explore Worldwide (01252 319448) offers trips to the Wahiba Sands as part of its small group exploratory holidays to Oman. An 11-day trip costs £1,295, including all travel, B&B, and tours.
- Visas can be obtained through tour organisers or through the Omani Embassy (0171-589 2840).
- Vaccinations are not compulsory but protection against typhoid, hepatitis A, polio, tetanus and malaria is recommended.

ALAN KEOHANE/IMPACT

Bedouins have kept their traditional dress but prefer pickup-trucks to camels

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£72	UK: (£ 72) London-Gatwick East • London-Gatwick West • London-Sutton • Maidenhead/Windsor • Newcastle Upon Tyne • Telford/Ironbridge • F: (FF 540) Calais (2) • Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport • Paris-Orly Airport • Paris-Rive Gauche • Paris-Vélizy • Strasbourg • Toulouse • B: (BF 3.300) Antwerp • Charleroi • Hasselt • Ostend • D: (DM 155) Aachen • Berlin-Esplanade • Dortmund-Römischer Kaiser • Essen • Fulda • Hamburg • Hannover • Karlsruhe-Ettlingen • Leipzig City Center • Leipzig-Günthersdorf • Minden • Rastatt/Baden-Baden • Stuttgart • Tossens-Nordsee Tropen Parc • Wolfsburg City Center • NL: (Dfl 175) Utrecht • A: (ATS 1.100) Vienna • E: (Pts 14.300) Madrid • Madrid City Centre • I: (LIT 180.000) Florence • Milan • Naples-Castelvolturno • MO: (M DHS 940) Casablanca • OMN: (OR 43) Muscat • P: (ESC 15.800) Lisbon-Campo Grande • PL: (US$ 113) Warsaw • SA: (SR 425) Riyadh • TR: (US$ 113) Istanbul-Ataköy Marina
£84	UK: (£ 84) Edinburgh • London-Brent Cross • London-Heathrow • London-Nelson Dock • F: (FF 595) Lyon Atlas • Paris-Bussy St. Georges • D: (DM 184) Berlin-Humboldt Park • Berlin-Kurfürstendamm • Bochum • Bonn • Bremen • Cologne City Center • Düsseldorf-Kaarst • Frankfurt-Offenbach • Hannover Airport • Heidelberg-Walldorf • Koblenz • Lübeck • Munich • Munich-South • Nurnberg • Stuttgart-Sindelfingen (2) • NL: (Dfl 205) Amsterdam • Amsterdam-Schiphol • Eindhoven • Leiden • Rotterdam City Centre (2) • A: (ATS 1.290) Innsbruck • Vienna • GR: (DRS 27.500) Athens • I: (LIT 210.000) Rome-Eur Parco dei Medici • OMN: (OR 51) Salalah • UAE: (UAE DHS 485) Dubai
£95	UK: (£ 95) Cambridge • Midland-Manchester (2) • F: (FF 710) Nice • Nice-Port St. Laurent (2) (3) • Paris-La Villette • Paris-Montmartre • Paris-Tour Eiffel • B: (BF 4.300) Brugge (4) • D: (DM 208) Cologne-Bonn Airport • Dortmund • Düsseldorf-Ratingen • Mannheim City Center • Schwerin • Wiesbaden • NL: (Dfl 230) Den Haag Promenade • M: (LM 52) Malta • SA: (SR 560) Yanbu • TR: (US$ 149) Istanbul
£110	UK: (£ 110) London-Kings Cross/Bloomsbury • London-Oxford Circus • F: (FF 840) Paris-République • D: (DM 245) Berlin City Center-Nürnberger Strasse • Düsseldorf-Königsallee • Frankfurt Conference Center • Frankfurt-Main-Taunus-Zentrum • Heidelberg • NL: (Dfl 275) Amsterdam City Centre • Maastricht • CH: (SFR 198) Geneva • I: (LIT 280.000) Rome-St. Peter's • IL: (US$ 175) Eilat-Patio • Herzlia (5) • Tiberias
£130	UK: (£ 130) Edinburgh • London-Kensington • London-Mayfair • London-Victoria • I: (LIT 320.000) Rome-Minerva (2) (6) • IL: (US$ 200) Eilat • Jerusalem • Tel Aviv • KWT: (KD 60) Kuwait

(1) Open end August 1996; (2) Weekends only; (3) FF 290 supplement until 31 August 1996; (4) BF 2.600 supplement on Fridays and Saturdays; (5) Open September 1996; (6) LIT 100.000 supplement.

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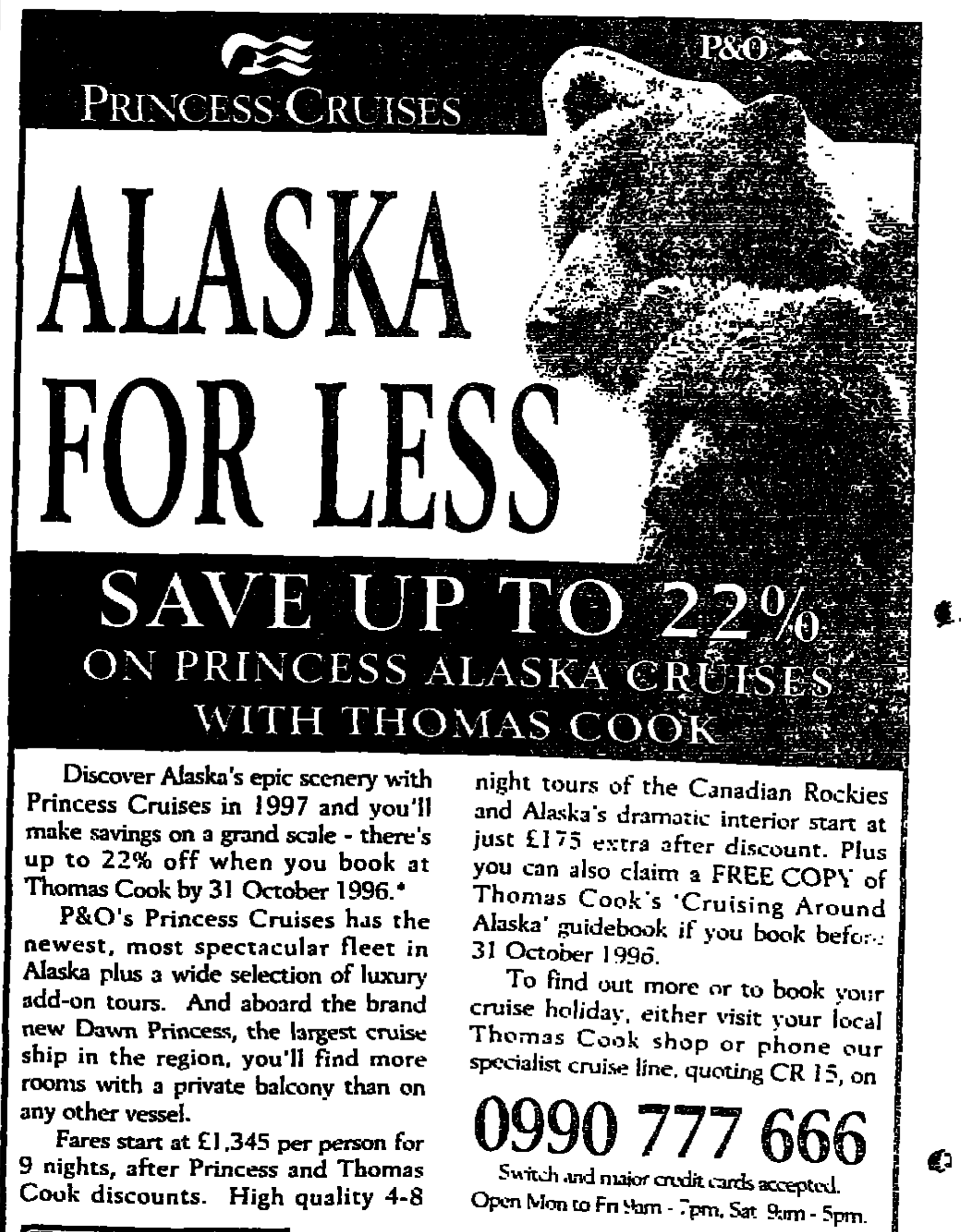
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هكذا من الاهمال

Macau: The Portuguese colony reverts to China in 1999; now is the time to indulge in addictive indolence

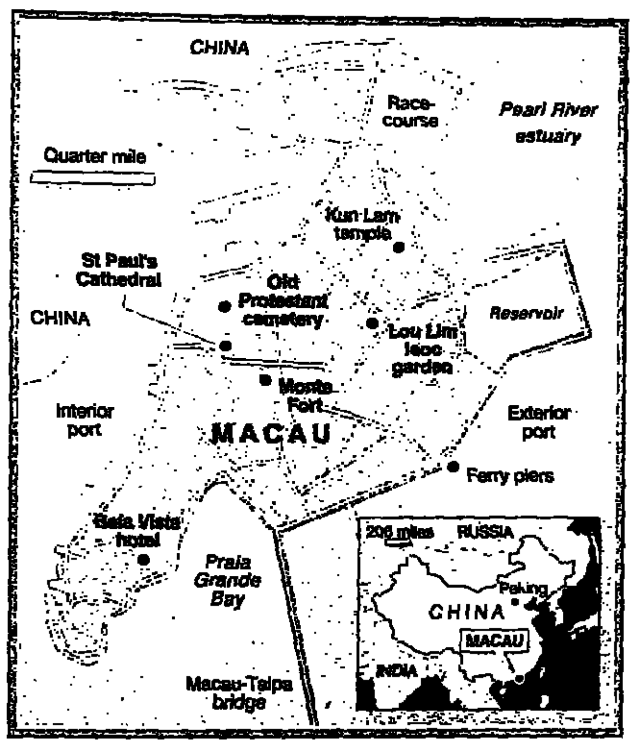
Far Eastern fun and games in the footsteps of Errol Flynn

STUART CLARKE

An attendant hangs incense burners in a Buddhist temple which sits alongside baroque churches, a legacy of Macau's Portuguese influence

Macau is the treatment sometimes prescribed for incurable romantics who can find relief from their suffering only in distant corners of the globe. Beware: a small dose is recommended initially, because this tiny Portuguese territory on the lip of China's Pearl River is a deceptively strong drug which can prove addictive. Her six square miles and two off-shore islands, Taipa and Coloane, remain the perfect antidote, for the time being, to bustling Hong Kong, a 40-mile sea trip but generations away in time.

For many, the first desire to visit the place comes from reading Errol Flynn's *My Wicked, Wicked Ways*. It was in Macau that the young reprobate film star and fortune-hunter lost his heart to a beautiful Eurasian deceiver, his dollars to the fantan tables and his grubstake of diamonds to a light-fingered passenger on the packet boat out.



This dubious autobiography, written 40 years ago, should serve as a warning, but lost souls are moths to the candle. True, Macau's flickering light dances among sing-song girls and casinos, but it also illuminates corners of immense colonial charm and warms this melting pot of Asia and Europe.

Macau was once the richest European outpost in the Far East, the fulcrum of Portugal's trade with the region. Ships returned laden with chests of tea and porcelain, bales of silk and tales of traders who ate off plates of solid gold. Here baroque 17th-century churches sit alongside Chinese temples. Bacalhao, dishes made from dried salt cod from Portugal, are as common as prawns in black-bean sauce. A glass of vinho verde at an outdoor café is as available as Tsingtao beer from China. As you siesta beneath a palm tree, it is a simple mistake to imagine that you are on the shores of the Mediterranean.

The strongest Portuguese influence is the languorous philosophy behind the word *amanha*, which is similar in meaning to the Spanish *mañana*, but does not convey the same sense of urgency.

And where better to contemplate a lazy schedule for the future than on the pillared veranda of the Bela Vista hotel, overlooking the sweep of Praia Grande Bay. I recommend a table in the southwestern corner where, within nodding distance of the barman, you can spend an hour or so watching sampans and junks against the hazy background of mainland China.

Old Far East hands sigh with nostalgia at the mention of the Bela Vista, built by an English sea captain at the end of the last century. They admired the faded grandeur, the high ceilings and magnificent marble staircase with wrought-iron railings. They readily forgave the peeling paint and the erratic hot water system. And they were horrified six years ago when the hotel was taken over and closed for renovations.

They need not have worried. The new owner is the group that runs the Mandarin Oriental hotel in Hong Kong and the Oriental hotel in Bangkok, two of the world's leading hotels. When it reopened two years and £3.75 million later, they could see that the best had been lovingly restored and everything improved, with the possible exception of prices. Its 23 rooms have been reduced to eight luxury suites, each decorated differently with Portuguese and Chinese furniture and fabrics, and the dining area increased to sit 60, with 50 more on the veranda.

It was here in the old days after a dinner of African chicken, the local Macanese delicacy, that I met the whisky-draining Portuguese priest who had spent most of his 80 years in Macau. The unofficial chronicler of local history and architecture, he extolled the virtues of the towering façade of the ruins of St Paul's Cathedral, which burnt down in 1835, and the nearby Monte Fortress, which defended the city against the Dutch in the 17th century. He recommended visiting the old Protestant cemetery and the Lou Lim Ieoc formal Chinese garden.

A worldly man, he pointed out that antiques flooding in from China were much cheaper than in Hong Kong. And if affairs of the stomach were to be taken seriously, Fernando's restaurant, a short taxi ride away on Coloane island, was a good place to while away an afternoon after a strenuous day on the beach. It is a favourite spot for Hong Kong weekenders, and Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, has been seen tucking into clams and garlic prawns.

The priest was a forgiving man if you showed an inclination to worship the goddess of chance at one of Macau's six casinos, along with thousands of day-trippers from Hong Kong, where gambling is illegal except at the racetrack.

It was to one of these establishments that the American humorist S.T. Perelman ventured after the Second World War expecting to find "lovely haggard women staking their last franc on the turn of a card, lean satanic operatives with black monocles and impeccable evening clothes, the mingled scent of Nuit d'Amour, Sobranies and hashish". He was disappointed, and it is easy to be disappointed today. The gambling-mad Chinese, whether feeding the ranks of slot machines, playing roulette or baccarat, or local games such as dai-siu and fantan, are a joyless lot.

As you pedicab back to your hotel past fortune-tellers and letter-writers, you can conjure up a frisson of international intrigue among the ghosts of soldiers of fortune, spies and refugees who swarmed into Macau during the Second World War when Portugal was a neutral country.

Back on the balcony of the Bela Vista, a glass of vinho verde to hand, there is always time to contemplate; to consider that there is now an airport and that the sound of jackhammers driving in foundations for yet more real estate is becoming as familiar as the click of chopsticks and the thwack of mah-jong counters.

Macau does not revert to China until 1999 but is already an important commercial conduit. Now is the time to indulge in a little Macanese indolence before it is too late.

ALASDAIR RILEY

● *The author was a guest of Virgin Atlantic and the Bela Vista hotel.*

MACAU FACT FILE

- *The Bela Vista is part of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel* Group (reservations in Britain, 0800 962667). Weekday rates are from £158 for a double room, including transfers between pier *and hotel but excluding service charge and Government tax.*
- Virgin Atlantic (01293 747747) flies daily from Heathrow to Hong Kong from £935 return plus tax, until Sept 10, then £778.
- A taxi from the airport to the jetfoil at Shun Tak Centre, Hong Kong, costs about £10. The Far East Jetfoil to Macau operates round the clock and costs from £10 one-way. Local information for jetfoils on 28 59 33 33; local credit-card bookings, 28 59 65 96. Collect tickets 30 minutes before crossing.
- TAP Air Portugal (0171-828 2092) and Sabena (0181-780 2270) operate a joint service direct from Brussels to Macau.
- Currency: the pataca is on a par with the Hong Kong dollar (which is also acceptable in Macau). £1=HK$12.
- Macau Tourist Information Bureau, 0171-224 3390.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 21

AZAN
(b) The Muslim call to public prayers, made by the crier from the minaret of a mosque. From the Arabic *adān*, an invitation. "I was wakened by the sound of the Azan from the village mosque close by."

FLOPPER
(c) A perpetrator of any of several kinds of frauds. "Floppers fall down on slippery floors in supermarkets, tumble deftly in front of slow-moving automobiles. Then they submit their claims to the stores or insurance companies."

COLBRED
(a) The name of a highly fertile breed of sheep obtained by crossing the Border Leicester, Clun, Friesland, and Dorset Horn; a sheep of this breed. A portmanteau word from *Col*(burn) a Gloucestershire sheep-breeding company + *bred*. "Mr Colburn has shown for the first time at the Royal Show at Newcastle upon Tyne the Colbred sheep which he has bred over five generations from crossings of three British and one Continental breed."

FADO
(c) A Portuguese folk-song of melancholy type; also, the name given to various types of dance (music) and song popular in Portugal. The Portuguese for "fate". "The most typical way to spend an evening in Lisbon is to listen to *fados*, the traditional songs of the Portuguese town worker: but make sure that you go to a genuine fado restaurant."

A WINTER'S WEEKEND IN ST PETERSBURG

St Petersburg, without doubt the most beautiful of all Russian cities, is an ideal city for a weekend visit. Although most prospective travellers would normally contemplate a visit during the summer months, we believe that St Petersburg is even more attractive during the winter. Cold it may be, but who could ever forget seeing the magical aristocratic palaces under a mantle of freshly fallen snow. Added to this the city is relatively free of tourists, leaving such gems as the Hermitage Museum and the country estates which surround St Petersburg free of the high season crowds.

During the winter months the cultural life of St Petersburg is at its peak. Music and dance will be at their best, whether your interest lies in ballet or opera the Kirov company will offer something to entrance you. It is also an excellent time for concerts and theatre and during the course of your visit there will be much on offer.

THE PETERHOF
A 4 STAR HOTELSHIP

With your time in St Petersburg limited, it is essential to stay in a central area. Therefore we have selected the Peterhof, a Swiss managed hotelship which is permanently moored in an ideal position on the River Neva.

The Peterhof has been selected in preference to other hotels as currently the choice is somewhat limited. There are some deluxe hotels in the city, but these cater for businessmen and therefore the rates are very high. The alternative is the former state-run hotels which are best suited to travellers on a limited budget.

The Peterhof offers a first class service, good food, comfortable accommodation and a welcoming and secure environment. All the cabins offer lower beds, private shower and toilet. The public areas are spacious with lounges, bars, as well as two dining rooms. Used by businessmen during the week, we obtained attractive rates for our weekend visits which combined with a low air fare makes for exceptionally low prices for a trip of such quality.

THE ITINERARY

DAY 1 London (Heathrow)-St Petersburg Early morning departure by Scandinavian Airlines via Copenhagen. Arrive in the early afternoon. Drive to the Peterhof for a 3 night stay.

DAY 2 St Petersburg Morning city tour. Afternoon free

DAY 3 St Petersburg There are many optional excursions available within the city including the Hermitage Museum as well as trips out to the country estates. Prices range from £10 to £25 and are bookable on board. It is also possible to book tickets for concerts, the opera/ballet, and circus, subject to availability

DAY 4 St Petersburg-London (Heathrow) Morning free for individual exploration or further optional excursions until afternoon departure to London via Copenhagen.

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

Departures from November 1996 to March 1997 with prices from £389 per person sharing a twin bedded cabin.

Price includes: Economy class air travel, 3 nights accommodation, buffet breakfast daily, 1 dinner, transfers, UK departure tax, half day city tour, free use of sauna and gym, 1 massage, services of a Tour Manager

Not included: Travel insurance, Russian visa £25, airport taxes, optional excursions, gratuities.

Flights can be arranged from the following regional airports. Manchester and Newcastle £50 supplement per person. Glasgow £75 supplement per person.

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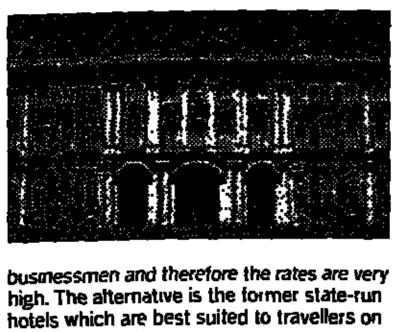

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£40 London (Elstree), Edgwarebury Hotel (0181) 953 8227
£40 New Forest/Winchester, Potters Heron Hotel (01703) 266611
£40 The Potteries (Stone), Stone House Hotel (01785) 815531
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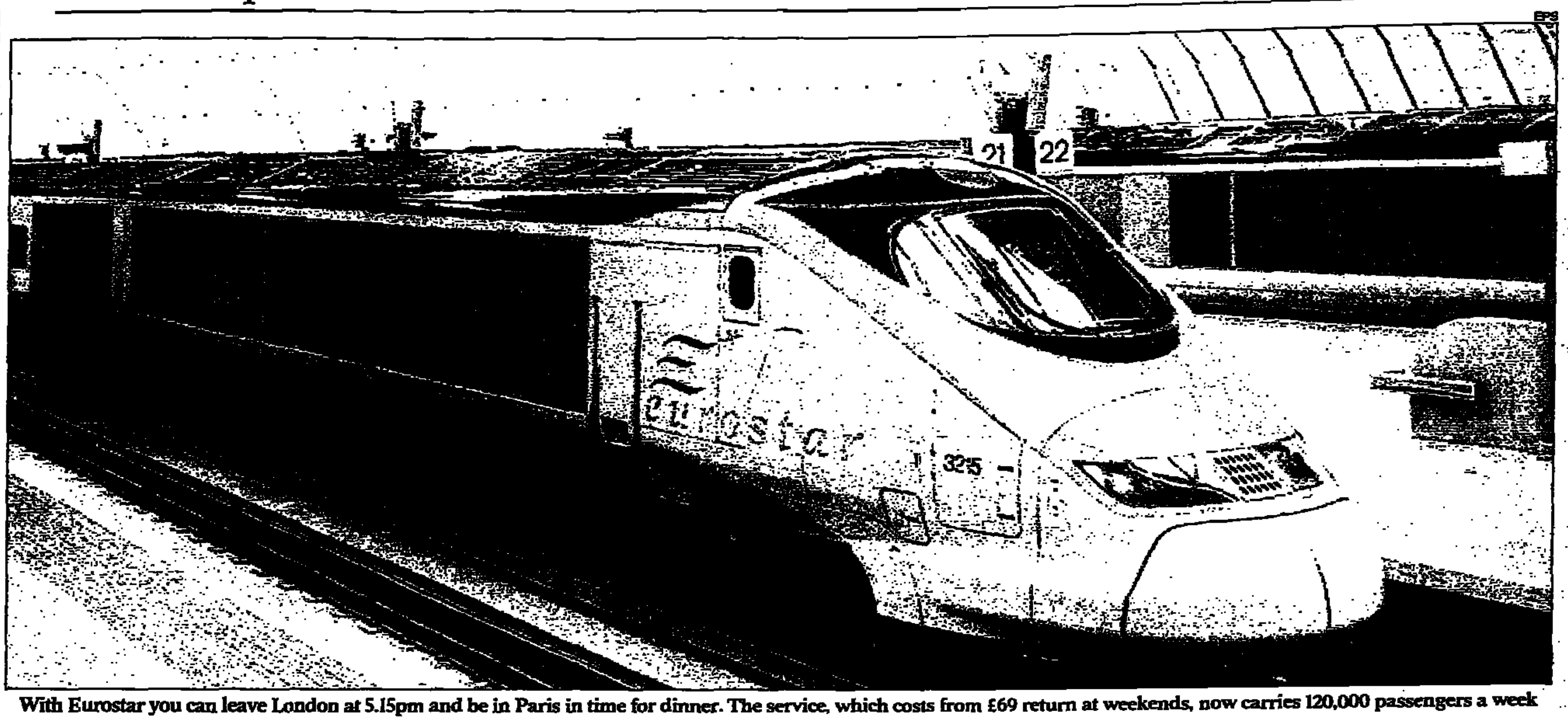
France: Special offers on Eurostar and a walk through a celebrity cemetery



With Eurostar you can leave London at 5.15pm and be in Paris in time for dinner. The service, which costs from £69 return at weekends, now carries 120,000 passengers a week

The magic carpet to Paris

Even on a third outing, the excitement doesn't stale. Going to Paris on Eurostar is one of the great British treats, an almost effortless way of getting to Europe's most entrancing city — the next best thing to a magic carpet, said my companion — and all for £69 weekend return.

I left the office at 4.30pm on Friday, caught the 5.15pm from Waterloo, took the Metro from the Gare du Nord to the Intercontinental Hotel, and was looking out over the floodlit Tuileries gardens by 9pm (British time). It certainly beats flying — the hour (at least) to Heathrow, the hour (at least) to check in, up to five passport checks, the flight, the wait for luggage at the other end, and then the journey into Paris from Charles de Gaulle. Eurostar delivers direct to central Paris, asks only once for passports and you walk off with your luggage.

If the idea of the tunnel frightens people who suffer from claustrophobia, the journey under the Channel lasts only 20 minutes and is no different from going through a tunnel in Britain.

Even in August, there is a gaiety about Paris that is utterly absent in London and it is also a more relaxing city to visit. Until midnight last Friday there was music in the night air from the Tuileries fair, the Ferris wheel was spinning, and screams of joy rose from the dodgems. Why can't London be such fun? Soon we were outside a café in the Champs Elysées and it seemed as if all Paris was there.

It wasn't, of course, for this was August. The Parisians have fled, many shops and cafés are shut until September and the city has been invaded by Americans and Japanese. Yet there are compensations. There are no queues for the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre or the Pompidou Centre (where there is a superb but searing Francis Bacon exhibition). Many areas are pleasingly deserted and you don't even have to look before you cross the road. The cafés and restaurants that are open are welcoming.

There were only three irritations. One was the crowds in Nôtre Dame. Thanks to Disney it was too crowded to savour and nor was the hunchback sighted. Another was the ever more invasive use of video cameras, especially in the Musée d'Orsay. Video users pose a challenge to British standards of courtesy: it is difficult to enjoy paintings when one fears that a home video is being spoilt. Surely video cameras should be banned in museums and galleries? The third, at Fr7.5 to the pound, was the rate of exchange. We could still eat "cheaply" in student cafes in the Latin Quarter for £10 a head but two small beers, a cheese sandwich and a croque monsieur in the Champs Elysées cost £20 and it was difficult to get a beer for less than £2-£3. It is not surprising that many British tourists this year are going to Spain instead of France where meals and drinks cost at least twice as much.

Eurostar is at last achieving the success it deserves. It is carrying more than 120,000 passengers a week. Now is the time to exploit special offers: Disneyland direct from £129 per person including hotel (0990-030303); a £49 day return from Ashford; student fares from £49 return or £59 at weekends; and apex return fares from £59. On Sunday we caught the 7.19pm back to London and were at Waterloo by 9.15pm. It was all too easy.

BRIAN MACARTHUR

● *The author was a guest of Inter-Continental Hotels which is offering a room for two with American breakfast at its two Paris hotels until September 3 from £179 a night (0345-581444). Eurostar sales: 0345-881881.*

A place to be seen dead in

Père-Lachaise, Paris's favourite cemetery, had an unpromising start. When it opened in 1804 on a hill inconveniently far from town, it was treated with disdain by Parisians, and no one who was anyone would be seen dead there.

By 1815, a mere 2,000 citizens were six foot under in Père-Lachaise and the lack of cortèges traipsing up the hill was worrying for the administrators. Something had to be done, and it was thus that the first public relations campaign started to attract the dead. The cemetery got hold of the bodies of La Fontaine and Molière and placed them in the same enclosure in stone sarcophagi. That covered potential clients with a literary bent. Then the Gothic tomb where Abélard and Helöise were reunited in 1701 was procured, bringing in young lovers by the dozen on pilgrimages. By the 1830s, there were more than 30,000 tombs, and the craze for Père-Lachaise was sealed when Honoré de Balzac had all of the characters in his novels buried there. In 1850, Balzac joined his fictional characters in person, his tomb topped by a bust showing his trendily bobbed haircut.

Today, Père-Lachaise boasts the best collection of notables in town, including Frédéric Chopin, Sarah Bernhardt, Jim Morrison, Edith Piaf, Guillaume Apollinaire, Eugène Delacroix, Oscar Wilde, Dominique Ingrès, Anthelme Brillat-Savarin (the first foodie), Yves Montand, the early photographer Nadar, and Gertrude Stein (with Alice B. Toklas modestly added on the back of the tombstone).

Cemetery-goers need to be well-equipped for the pilgrimage. The maps in most guidebooks are too small, so it is worth buying a full map from the flower shops near the cemetery gates. The main gatehouse of the cemetery offers free maps, but these are not so detailed. One of the worst guidebooks available in the shops nearby is *Une heure au Père-Lachaise*, which provides little information beyond the map and, as anyone will discover, it takes two hours for even a minimal tour of the cemetery. Better to rely on the map and your own choice of the famous. The shady cemetery is a wonderful place to sit, and was designed by the architect of the Bourse, Alexandre Brongniart. It has more than 5,000 trees, winding paths, little staircases and grand squares — none of that dull mathematical look of modern cemeteries.

Finding graves is not as simple as it looks on the map. You will often have to search through a couple of rows back from the paths and the staff are somewhat unhelpful. The better graves are often to be found just by mooching around, sneaking into tombs with stained glass windows and mysterious sculpture. The best ones, however, include the Pharaonic version of Oscar Wilde sculpted by Jacob Epstein, inscrutable and grumpy, as well you might look if you had been shunned by England and not made welcome in France. The grave of Victor Noir features a lifesize scupture of the journalist sleeping on top of the grave with his top hat thrown off beside him, his high-heeled boots protruding over the edge of the stone.

In the same section as Edith Piaf, buried as Madame Lamboukas with her young Greek lover, are extraordinary sculptures commemorating the victims of Nazi concentration camps, modern and chilling against comforting Gothic-revival and Victoriana.

The grave titled intimately "Fred Chopin" receives 800 visitors a day and has the female muse of music sitting on a pedestal by Clesinger and a creepy bas relief death mask.

The busiest grave is that of the Doors' singer Jim Morrison. You can barely see the inscription because the grave has been roped off. They have removed the bust of Morrison, with the open mouth that visitors would tuck a cigarette in. Two guards stand by on anti-hippy patrol, ending the tradition of having a joint at the graveside.

KATE MUIR

● *Père-Lachaise Cemetery, Boulevard de Ménilmontant, open daily 8.30am-6pm.*

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO PARIS

JILL CRAWSHAW'S INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

Rally for Raleigh

IF YOU'RE looking for adventure, the youth development charity, Raleigh International (0171-371 8585) wants volunteers to join their expeditions in 1997. Each lasts ten weeks and blends adventure with project work in some of the world's last frontiers. Projects planned include researching environmental changes on the North Patagonian Ice Cap in Chile, and renovating clinics in the foothills of Mount Elgon in Eastern Uganda, bringing health care to an area once ravaged by civil war.

Swanning off

THE SWAN Hellenic (0171-800 2200) new ship *Minerva*, a converted Russian naval vessel, sets off on the maiden voyage of her first winter season to the Middle East on November 14. The two-week *Pillars of Wisdom* cruise has a clutch of distinguished lecturers and will to visit Petra, Luxor and Dubai, the Yemeni capital of Sana'a and Salalah in Oman, which Marco Polo described as "a great and noble city". Cruise prices start at £2,958.

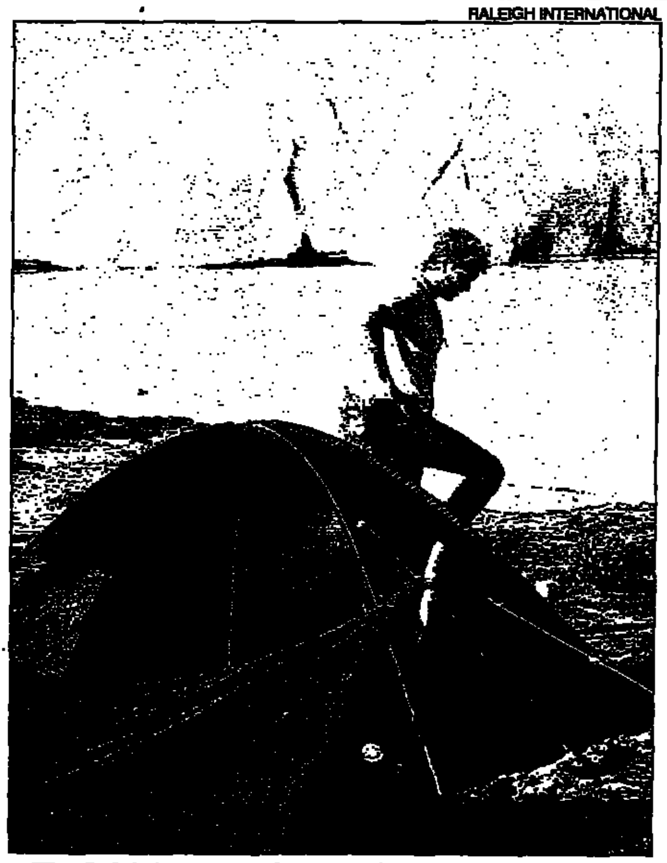
Children free

FOR BOOKINGS made before September 14 this year, guaranteed free places are offered for summer 1997 for the first child in a family, sharing a room with two adults, at 21 destinations in the *Kids go Free* brochure from Cosmos Holidays (0161 480 5799). Prices start at £493 for two adults and two children under 17 for a week's self-catering in Salou in May.

Luxury tours

WITH AN average price of £3,000, the new Tropical Elegance (0181-875 1777) luxury hotel programme, featuring the Caribbean, Far East and Indian Ocean, is aiming for holidaymakers "who want to feel privileged and pampered". The most expensive pampering is a three week "Ultimate Oriental" tour with business class travel, private car transfers and sightseeing, an Eastern and Oriental Express rail trip, helicopter sightseeing in Hong Kong and hotel stays in The Peninsula, Hong Kong, Raffles in Singapore, the Oriental Bangkok and The Four Seasons in Bali starting at £7,685.

RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL



The Raleigh camp at the base of a glacier in Patagonia

Favourite isle

A NEW holiday brochure exclusively to the Dominican Republic, currently the Caribbean's most popular island, has been launched for next year by Inspirations (01293 82244). Prices start from £499 for a fortnight's flight-and-room-only holiday in Cabarete in early May. Nine out of the 12 hotels offered at Playa Dorado, Sosuza and Cabarete are all-inclusive. Add-on windsurfing packages are available for £85, as well as river rafting, jeep and horseriding excursions.

Deep South

WELL AWAY from the skyscrapers and mayhem of Atlanta, Premier Holidays (01223 516688) offer a different Deep South, staying in bed and breakfast accommodation in plantation houses and historic inns. At the Oak Alley Plantation, old slave quarters sleep two and cost £67 per room per night. Flights to Atlanta cost from £384 per person in September, car hire from £119 a week.

Eau naturel

THE SLOVENIAN wine-producing village of Stanice is a short drive from the spa town of Zrece — which is just as well if you're staying at the Urska farmhouse, in the Stajerska Region, which produces some of the country's best wines.

During October you can sample the wine, help with the harvest and enjoy the home cooking of farmer's wife Vilma, and then head off to Zrece for an urgent liver-repair by taking the waters. Slovenijaz Pursuits (01763 852646) offers seven nights holidays, flying from Heathrow for £370 half board and self drive car hire for £39 a day, or taxi transfer from the airport costing £39.

Silk route

TO MARK Tamarlane's 660th anniversary, many monuments in Uzbekistan's Samarkand, including his tomb, are being restored. Andrew Brock Travel (01472 821330) can arrange six night trips there, combining the city with the atmospheric Silk Route trading post of Bokhara from £1,115 for flights (about six hours) and B&B accommodation.

Another 17-night tour, the Road to Oxiana, links the two pinnacles of Persian culture, Esfahan and Amarkand, as well as other major sites, and costs £2,747 full board.

Egypt drama

VERDI'S *OTELLO* will be performed in the Citadel for Alexandria's second World Festival between September 21 and 27; other events include Folklore performances, an international song contest and pop concerts.

Nomadic Thoughts (0181-960 1001) is offering tailor-made tours to the festival and other Egyptian highlights from £759 per person with flights and accommodation. Festival tickets are extra.

The Royal Cities of Rajasthan
visiting Agra (the Taj Mahal), Fatehpur Sikri, Karauli, Jaipur,
Bundi, Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Ranakpur, Luni, Jodhpur, Roopangarh, Mandawa and Delhi

India, and Rajasthan in particular, has a wealth of royal residences either in the form of palaces, forts or large estates. As in Britain, it has been difficult for ancestral families to finance the general upkeep of these properties without seeking additional sources of income. Whilst in Britain this has meant opening the houses to visitors, in India, where the properties tend to have many bedrooms, their most appropriate use has been as hotels.
The development of the very large palaces took place a number of years ago and they have firmly established their place on the visitors' itinerary. More recently some medium sized royal residences and palaces have been converted into small hotels under the banner of 'Heritage', and whilst the large palaces are generally run as international hotels, these smaller properties and estates are still, in many cases, run in a 'hands on' manner by their original royal families.
Fortunately these royal residences are conveniently located throughout Rajasthan, enabling us to compose a truly unique and rewarding itinerary which not only gives a marvellous insight into Indian history through its royal residences but also the chance to see some remarkable sights as we travel around Rajasthan at a leisurely pace.

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Dec 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - 1997 Jan 7, 14, 21, 28
Feb 4, 11, 18, 25 - Mar 4, 11, 18, 25
Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - May 6, 13, 20, 27
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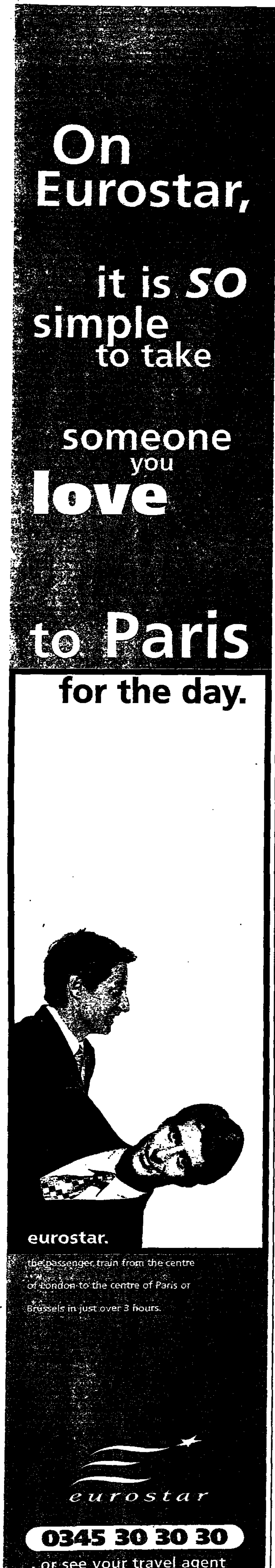

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Scotland: The bleakness of the peat bogs; walking in the Hebrides; a bright life of drinking and dancing

Wildlife goes with the Flow

J. ALLAN CASH

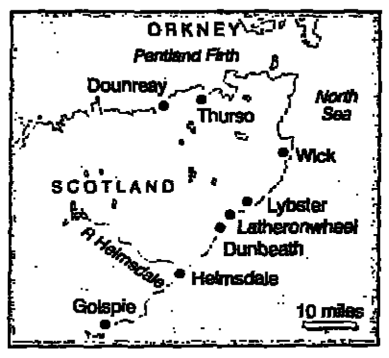
Flow Country landscape of vast, flat peatland may seem monochrome and monotonous to the eye but it supports large numbers of rare birds

Wandering around the Flow Country in northeast Scotland is a bit like crossing the Sahara Desert without a map: everywhere looks exactly the same and, if you're not careful, you could go a very long way in the wrong direction.

Luckily I had a guide with me, Ricky Starr, the Highland Regional Council countryside officer, who played Alan Breck Stuart to my David Balfour. Unlike the characters in Stevenson's novel *Kidnapped*, though, we were not being pursued by Redcoats. It was we who were doing the chasing, scouring the bleak landscape for signs of its unique wildlife.

Flow is a northern word for flat, deep or wet bog peatland. Originally, it described only the concentration of pool systems in west Caithness and east Sutherland, but now refers to peatland generally in the northeast — all 900,000 acres of it, the largest expanse of bogland in western Europe.

The Flow Country hit the headlines in the mid-1980s when a row between conservationists and the foresting/peat extracting lobby blew up. The conservationists said the commercial sector was ruining the landscape; the developers said the others were living in the Stone Age. Since then, the tax incentives to invest in foresting have been abolished and much of the planting has stopped. The conservationists now favour limited peat extraction — the big word in the Highlands is "sustainable" use, which brings in grants from Europe's Life Fund.



Monotone and monotonous it may seem to the eye, but the area supports large numbers of rare birds. Sleek divers, both red and black-throated, nest here; merlin shoot along with their low, scudding flight; and 66 per cent of the country's greenshank and 40 per cent of its dunlin and common (but uncommon) scoter breed here. Seen from one of the infrequent peaks, the landscape resembles a photograph of the Earth taken from a spacecraft: the ones that show that Earth is mainly water, with the odd block of land. The pool-ridden areas of the peatland are the same: here, too, the insectivorous sundew grows, with its red-haired paws resembling some infant triffid.

We had started by driving up the coast to Dunrobin Castle, a huge, baronial extravaganza and seat of the Dukes of Sutherland near Golspie. The entrance fee of £3.70 was acceptable, which is more than can be said for the first duke's treatment of his tenants in the early 1800s, when about 13,000 were evicted during the Clearances.

From Golspie we went north, following the Helmsdale, one of Scotland's finer salmon rivers, and on to the coast.

Passing the nuclear monstrosity of Dounreay, we made for Thurso, Britain's northernmost town, which looks quaint but drab. Wick is very like Thurso — terrace upon terrace of granite houses — and the two of them would seem twee if they weren't in one of the most exposed parts of the country, where they have acquired a wizened toughness. At Lybster we came across the Portland Hotel, the sort of place that invites you to sink into an armchair with a large whisky and wax lyrical about the one that got away earlier that day. The town itself is an example of early municipal planning, laid out by a local philanthropist to settle victims of the Clearances. It has a very wide high street and, instead of the expected groups of houses by the harbour, the quay is strangely devoid of habitation.

Latheronwheel, the next port south, is a scaled down version of Lybster, while Dunbeath is an even smaller example of the same: little harbour stuck out on its own; main village up on the hillside. Here we ran into a lobsterman who had given us some free fish in Lybster. Apart from handing us more, he was persuaded to gut them for us. Later, we ate them fried in golden breadcrumbs. They were delicious, and for a halcyon hour or so I had visions of setting myself up with a little fish and chip shop on the Caithness coast.

JAMES PENN

● *The author travelled courtesy of BR East Coast.*

FLOW COUNTRY FACT FILE

■ Getting there: the Apex return rail fare from King's Cross to Wick is £73; or from £87 booked on the day.

■ *Places to stay: Lybster — Portland Arms* (01593 721208/721255), B&B from £38.50 single, £58 double. Thurso — Pentland Hotel, Princes Street (01847 893202), B&B from £23 single, £25 double. Wick — Nethercliffe Hotel, Louisburgh Street (01955 602044), B&B from £44 double. Dunbeath Hotel (01593 731208) B&B, from £38 single, £64 double.

■ *Places to visit: Dunrobin* Castle (01408 633177). Forsinard Visitors' Centre, RSPB (01641 571225). Strathnaver Museum, *Bettyhill (01641 521418): depicts* past life in the Highlands, particularly the Clearances. Clan Gunn Centre, *Latheron (01593 721 325). Timespan* Heritage Centre, Helmsdale (01431 821327).

Reeling around Highland hotels

Before a pre-dinner drink, I study the hotel rules. "Largely because it is the declared wish of 99.9 per cent of our Guests, there is no television in the Lodge. For the 0.1 per cent who would like to watch television it can be arranged but we must warn you that television is very variable." So much for *EastEnders* then.

Never mind, dinner at Knockie Lodge hotel, near Fort Augustus and 800ft above Loch Ness, served in the oak-panelled, candlelit dining room makes up for such deprivations: scallops in a saffron sauce, roast lamb fillet en croute, chocolate cake and Scottish cheeses.

Breakfast next day is delicious, too, with hand-made oatcakes and glistening fresh kippers. Just as well, since we need fortifying before heading off to the Glen Affric forest reserve about 20 miles away.

In autumn the glen, which Sir Walter Scott described as the most beautiful in Scotland, is deserted. Having begun gently, we puff and pant up a winding trail that rewards you with a breathtaking view of tranquil Loch Affric.

The Crannog Seafood restaurant, on the shores of Loch Ness, was our lunch stop and one of the best restaurants in the Highlands. In summer, tourists queue along the sea front for a table, but at lunchtime on an off-season Saturday the restaurant is only half full.

In a corner, three nuns are gouging the juicy pink flesh from giant langoustines and licking the greasy garlic butter from their fingers. Through the wide windows customers can see the fishermen unloading that evening's dinner.

Highlanders, explains the owner Findlay Findlayson, are happy to devote their lives to catching seafood, but they have no tradition of eating it. As long as prawn cocktail, steak and Black-Forest gâteau are barred from the menu, the locals stay away. All the more for us, though, and we gorge ourselves on huge plates of gravadlax, steaming bowls of fish soup, skate with black butter accompanied by huge bowls of new potatoes and salad, and then force ourselves to find room for sticky toffee pudding and *crannachan* — whipped cream, raspberries, toasted oats and whisky.

Just as well that more exercise is on offer that evening at the Lovat Arms hotel in Beauly, a genteel little town about an hour's drive away, where the locals gather for the Saturday night *ceilidh*.

I LOVE PRAWN COCKTAIL, BUT THE WEE BEASTIES ARE DIFFICULT TO CATCH
ROBERT THOMPSON

First there is more eating and drinking: prawns and steak are on the menu here, preceded by the arrival of the haggis, heralded by bagpipes.

After dinner the piper retires to the drawing room to accompany the evening's revels, a mixture of sword-dancing and riotous bouts of Strip the Willow and the Dashing White Sergeant, where sassenach guests are persuaded to abandon their inhibitions, strip themselves of jewellery which may be tugged off as they are flung across the room, and join, however maladroitly, the dance. Next morning we are too hung-over to do more than grimace at our breakfast plates of bacon and eggs before setting off on a drive northwards along the Dornoch Firth, whose shore at low tide is covered in basking seals. Our destination is Tain, home of Glenmorangie, the bestselling malt whisky in Scotland and the third bestseller in the world.

Catherine Thomson, a character straight from *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* ("For a while there were 16 men of Tain and me") takes visitors on a guided tour of the warm distillery, whose air is thick with the sickly, sour smell of barley. Downstairs, in the still-room, the sweet liquid produced by the mash condenses and distills itself, in one of the eight copper stills: a 17ft neck balanced on a round, burnished belly. The higher the neck of the still, the purer the spirit, and Glenmorangie has the tallest in Scotland.

It is all very interesting, but slightly academic to me, because my last experience with whisky involved drinking half a bottle at the sixth-form disco and nearly losing a liver.

That night, however, at the nearby Glenmorangie House Hotel, a luxurious establishment with four-poster beds and whirlpool baths, I am persuaded to join in a tasting. Several sips of the ten-year-old later, I am converted.

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

● *The author was a guest of the Scottish Tourist Board (0131-332 2433) and Glenmorangie.*

● *British Airways (0345 222111) London Heathrow to Inverness return, from £99.*

● *The Crannog, Fort William, 01397 705589. Knockie Lodge (01456 486276), from £90 B&B for two May-Oct. Beauly Lovat Arms (01463 782313), from £74 B&B for two. The Glenmorangie House Hotel (01862 892281), from £65 B&B for two.*

By foot and ferry o'er the isles

The Outer Hebrides are a national park in everything but name, guaranteeing bounteous wildlife and mind-bending scenery. They also prove the perfect challenge for the intermediate-level walker, who might relish the hike from Barra, at the southern end of the archipelago, to the Butt of Lewis — or, in my case, the 100 miles to Tarbert in Harris.

Getting there involved realising a long-held ambition: a trip on the West Highlander sleeper from London to Fort William, now thankfully reprieved.

Sliding up the window blind at dawn, a perfect specimen loch, purple mountainsides and swathes of evergreens simply had to be Scotland; the cheery guard, arriving with a cup of coffee and a croissant, confirmed we would soon be in Crianlarich, departure point for trains to Oban, gateway to the isles.

A previous sailing to Barra's port, Castlebay, had produced porpoises and puffins, but today only gannets, guillemots and gulls made an appearance. Disappointment evaporated once the island had sharpened into focus, its famous fortress a giant buoy to guide our ferry in.

After a night at the Isle of Barra Hotel — built alongside the sort of silky white shoreline for which an English resort would mortgage its pier, but which in the Hebrides are two a penny — the trek began in earnest, pack on back and boots walloping the single-track road.

Barra's eastern shoreline is dotted with pretty fishing villages, the walker presented on one side with channels of pitch-black rock sheltering brightly painted boats, on the other milky lochs, heather moorland and roadsides peppered in summer with orchids.

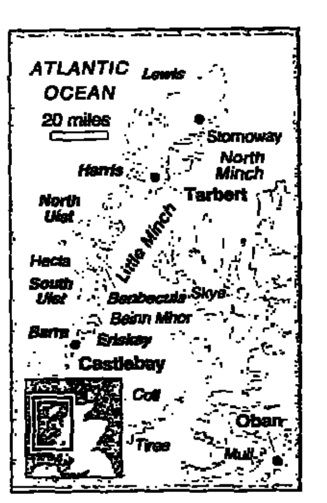
Beyond the bleached-white sands of Traigh Mhor estuary came the Sound of Barra, and a passenger ferry to South Uist. That day we were followed through the jade waters by a flipping and turning seal.

Eriskay, where we made a stop, was where Bonnie Prince Charlie first touched Scottish soil 250 years before. Most reminders of the Jacobite rebellion hereabouts are associated with the prince's flight, such as the cave on the east coast of South Uist where the Young Pretender had sheltered but which, sadly for me, was too far away to visit.

South Uist's southwest corner marks the beginning of an uninterrupted procession of sandy Atlantic beaches, whose adjoining flower-covered machair grasslands seem to have been padded for easy walking.

Three red deer suddenly appeared, gazing intently from no more than 30 yards, unlike their brethren on most Scottish moorlands, which melt away at the merest whiff of a Home Counties scent.

That night was spent at a B&B in the village of Mingarry, which like other accommodation on the trip has charming hosts. Next morning, after a high-cholesterol breakfast, I paid homage to the nearby ruined remains of the childhood home of Flora MacDonald, heroine of the '45, and spent the morning walking beneath the peaks of Hecla and Beinn Mhor.



A night on Benbecula, the central island in the Uist chain, preceded a memorable section of the walk, across causeways to Grimsay and North Uist. Here vast sands were covered with sea birds and waders, a scene that has photographers twitching and twitchers taking photographs.

Harris was just as inspiring. The Bays Road, which links small crofting communities along the island's eastern or Minch coast, proved spectacular: fishing villages hug steep hills above bays of golden seaweed, small lochs covered in lily pads lap against rocky banks. A harbour played host to seals stretched out on rocks like flat slugs on a leaf. Further on, two jet-black mink were involved in a furious chase, coming to their senses only when a sheepdog decided to make it a three-way contest.

Failing to find B&B vacancies along the way, I eventually reached Stockinish Youth Hostel, which proved the most enjoyable night of the trip: the converted schoolhouse was full of overseas visitors, all tangibly caught in the spell of the Hebrides.

Everyone at the hostel sat up chatting, the discussion varying from likeliest spots for otters to what time the mobile stores would arrive next morning.

The final day's walk, which began with a refreshing dip in a peat-brown loch, followed the Golden Road to Tarbert. At Drinishader, the islands of East Loch Tarbert and mountains of North Harris came into view, followed by journey's end, the harbour village of Tarbert, as deserted as a cricket ground in winter.

That night I was back aboard the West Highlander, and the next thing I knew was that the coffee and croissant-bearer had arrived and was respectfully pointing out that the train had been in Euston for half an hour.

HENRY HEMMING

HEBRIDES FACT FILE

■ *RAIL: West Highlander* (information 0345 484950, reservations 0800 334334), seven-day Apex return *London-Fort William £60; sleeper £27* extra each way.

■ FERRIES: Caledonian MacBrayne (0990 650000) offers foot passengers an eight-day Island Rover ticket for £36 (peak-season April 5-Oct 12). Barra-South Uist ferry — Eriskay Enterprises (01878 720233). Eoligarry-Ludag £3.90 single.

■ ACCOMMODATION: Lochmaddy Hotel, North Uist (01876 500331), *from* £36 for B&B, double. Isle of Barra Hotel (01871 810383) from £38 for B&B, peak season. *Stockinish Youth Hostel (01859 530373)*, £4.10 a night for adult members. B&B £15 a night.

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Travel continued from page 14

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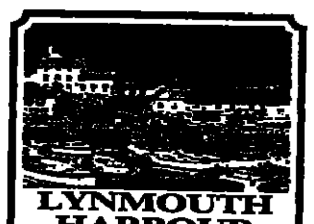

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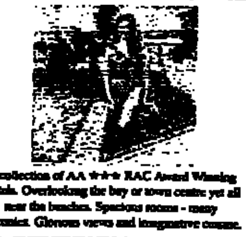

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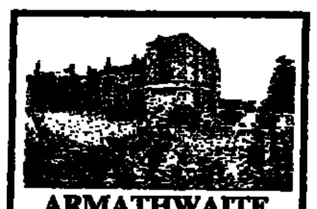

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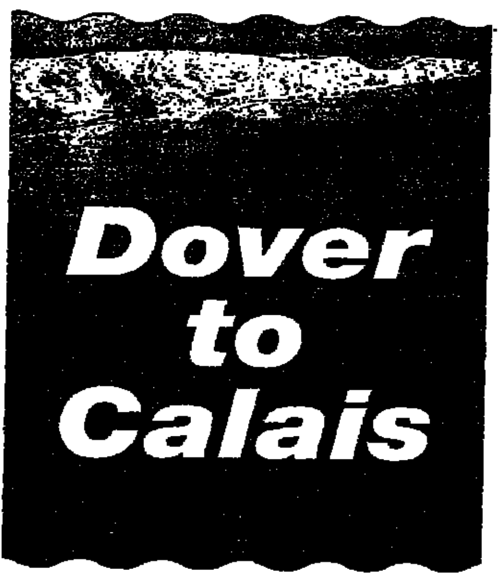

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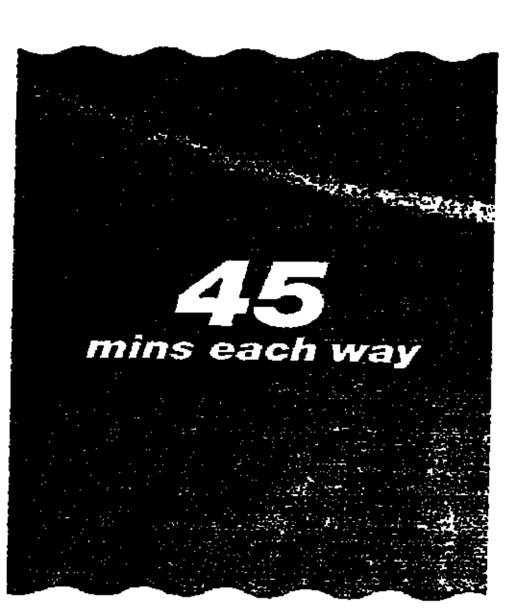

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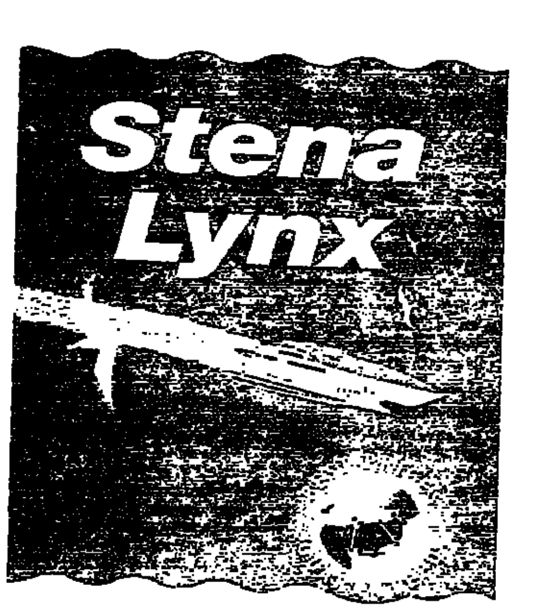

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GAMES

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

THE most spectacular game in the tournament at Biel in Switzerland which finished last week was played in one of the lower competitions. In this clash, Black sacrifices first his queen and then a rook in stunning fashion to drive the white king into a net where checkmate is inevitable.

White: Pitam: Black: Arbakov
English Opening

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 g6
3 g3 Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0
5 0-0 d6 6 Nc3 e5

White can now enter a main line of the King's Indian Defence with 7 d4. Instead, White is planning a queenside attack by means of b4. In compensation, Black will operate on the other wing and press White's king.

7 d3 Nbd7 8 Rb1 Nh5
9 b4 h6 10 Bb2

It is prudent to defend the knight on c3, although it is possible that 10 Bd2, which does not mask the activity of White's rook on b1, is a better way of achieving this. In contrast though, 10 Nd2, unleashing the full force of White's fianchettoed bishop falls foul of the neat tactic 10 ... e4, when, after capture on e4 by either of White's knights, 11 ... f5 will win a piece.

10 ... f5 11 Nd2 Nhf6
12 b5 g5 13 Nd5 Nxd5
14 cxd5 Nf6

It seems that the exchange of knights will give White pleasant pressure in the half-open c-file. Experience has taught, though, that in such situations the black pawn on c7 is relatively easy to defend. Meanwhile, Black's advanced phalanx of pawns on the king's flank gives him prospects of the initiative there.

15 a4 Bd7 16 Qb3 Rf7
17 Rbc1 h5 18 a5 b6

This forestalls White's intention of playing b6, which would undermine the black pawn on d6, the foundation of Black's entire central and kingside pawn structure.

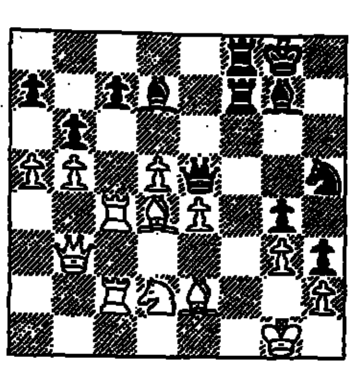
19 Rc4 Bh6 20 Rfc1 g4
21 e3 Rc8 22 R1c2 h4
23 e4 f4 24 d4 fxg3

The rival attacks are close to reaching their climax. Although White's position appears impressive, he will soon find that his king has wandered into the firing line.

25 fxg3 Nh5 26 dxe5 dxe5
27 Bxe5 Qg5 28 Bd4 h3
29 Bf1 Rcf8

Black's pieces are now poised for the breakthrough. The threat is ... Qxd2 followed by ... Rxf1 mate. The iron hoop of Black pawns on g4 and h3 proves an effective dungeon for the white king.

30 Be2 Bg7 31 Be3 Qe5
32 Bd4

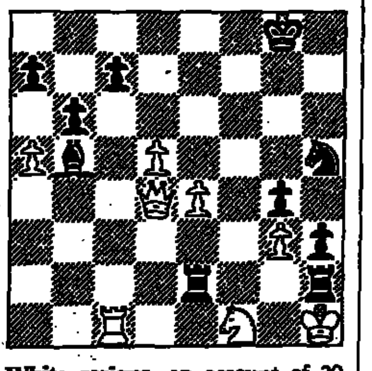


If White hopes by this move to salvage a draw by repetition after 32 ... Qg5 33 Be3, he is in for a terrible shock. Exchanging queen for rook and bishop, Black again stokes up his attack.

32 ... Qxd4+ 33 Rxd4 Bxd4+
34 Kh1 Rf2 35 Qd3 Bxb5

A further brilliant stroke which White may have overlooked. If now 36 Qxb5, then Rxh2+ 37 Kxh2 Rf2+ 38 Kg1 h2+ 39 Kh1 Nxg3 mate.

36 Qxd4 Rxe2 37 Re1 Rff2 38 Nf1. White may have been relying on this ultimate defensive resource to exclude Black's rampant forces, but now a final sacrifice finishes White off. 38 ... Rxh2+.



White resigns, on account of 39 Nxh2 Nxg3+ 40 Kg1 Rg2, mate.

By Raymond Keene

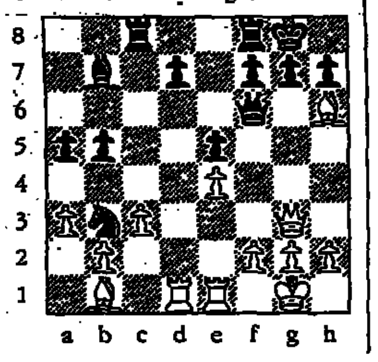
White to play. This position is from the game Mendoza – Diaz, Colombia 1996.

White is trying to mate Black on the g7-square but at the moment Black has this threat covered by his queen which is also threatening to capture the white bishop. Can White do better than retreating his attacked piece?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Re8+

Last week's winners: D Timbrell, Chingford, London: S J Phillips, Appleton Thorn, Warrington: K C Underhill, Buckfastleigh, Devon.

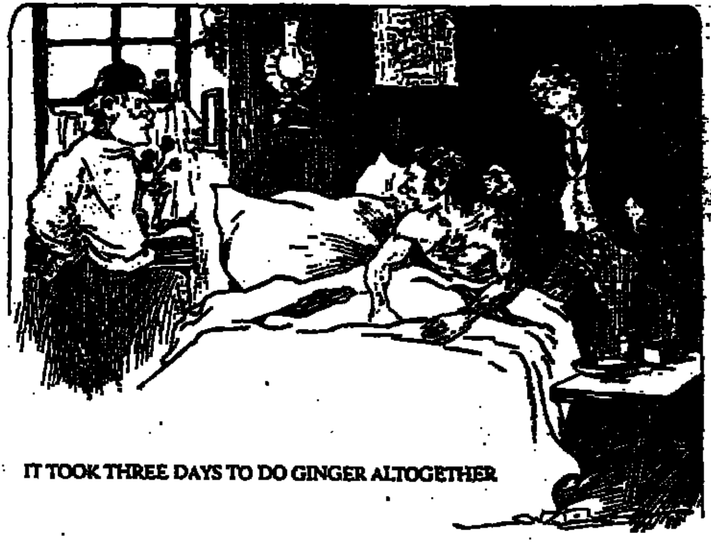


READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced with permission from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

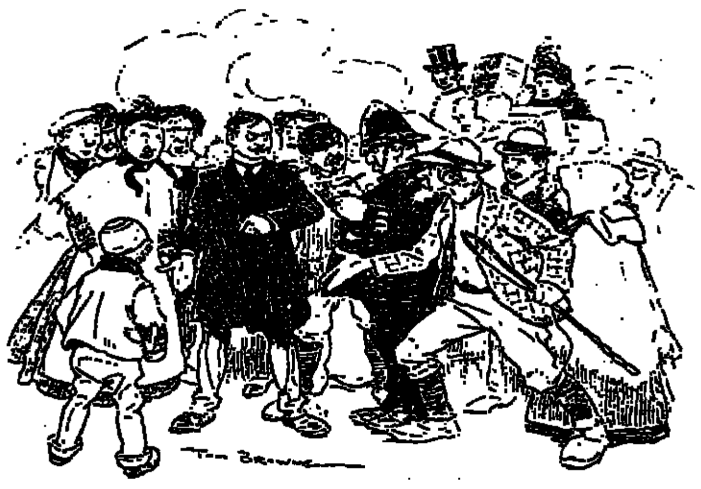
The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption (12), Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, August 14.



IT TOOK THREE DAYS TO DO GINGER ALTOGETHER



After the result was announced in the 'Celebrity Lookalikes' competition, Kaiser Bill and George Bernard Shaw insisted that the Bisto Kid should be drugs tested

The winning caption was submitted by D. Swift of Edinburgh

By Philip Howard

AZAN
a. The Arabic alphabet
b. A call to prayer
c. Without life

FLOPPER
a. The sand eel
b. A beach sandal
c. A fraud

COLBRED
a. A fertile sheep
b. A type of bone china
c. With prehistoric ridges

FADO
a. A failure
b. An object of affection
c. A sad song

Answers on page 17

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by Robert Sheehan

THE EUROPEAN Youth Bridge Championships in Cardiff ended on July 28. Norway won the Junior event (under 25), with Great Britain a disappointing 14th out of 26 teams. In the 14-team Schools event (under 20), Germany was first, Israel second and Great Britain third. The British team was P. Adamson, G. Clark, G. Hazel, A. Hydes, M. Teltscher and Abbey Walker, with R. Fleet as captain.

The defence successfully thwarted the declarer's attempt to draw trumps on this hand in the Juniors.

Dealer East Love-all IMPs

♠K8
♥QJ765
♦K6
♣9875

♠Q10
♥A
♦J108742
♣KQ42

♠J95
♥K109832
♦Q5
♣103

♠A76432
♥4
♦A93
♣AJ6

W	N	E	S
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2♣
2 NT[1]	3♠	All Pass	

Contract: Three Spades by South.
Lead: jack of diamonds.
[1] Showing length in the minors

When Italy were North-South against Hungary, the declarer started by playing three rounds of diamonds. He ruffed his third diamond with the eight of spades. East overruffed, which in itself was not fatal for the declarer, as it was with a natural trump trick. But the blockage in the trump suit proved insurmountable.

East returned the ten of clubs, and it didn't matter what the declarer did. If he rose and led a trump to the king, West would then be able to win whatever card was led from dummy, cash his side winners and finish by playing a diamond, which East could ruff with the jack to promote West's queen for the setting trick.

Better play is for declarer to cover the ten of clubs with the jack. West wins the queen and cashes the ace of hearts, leaving this position:

Dealer East Love-all IMPs

♠K
♥QJ76
♦—
♣987

♠Q10
♥—
♦1087
♣K42

♠J5
♥K10932
♦—
♣3

♠A76432
♥—
♦—
♣A6

West continues with a fourth round of diamonds, East discarding a club. If declarer ruffs in dummy, the defence are bound to come to two more trump tricks via the promotion possibilities in the side suits. And if declarer ruffs in hand to play a trump to the king, again the defence make two tricks.

At the other table the declarer neatly avoided this tangle. After winning the king of diamonds, he cashed the king of spades — the critical play. Then he took his diamond ruff, but now when East overruffed and returned a club, South could win and play the ace of spades.

---

by Tim Wapshott

LUCASARTS IS branching out into the world of sims with Afterlife, a game inspired by heaven but initially played out in hell. Running along similar lines to Sim City, the idea is to build and manage the hereafter of your dreams efficiently enough to keep attracting permanent souls.

Instead of linking roads with areas for homes, commercial and industrial properties to evolve quickly, here you must connect paths to zones for the seven deadly sins, or their corresponding heavenly virtues. In fact, you are building and administering two opposite worlds simultaneously — Heaven and Hell.

A small development in Heaven might offer spirits endless champagne partying while one of the grandest is a glorious freeway for everlasting rounds of golf.

Hellish concepts start with Jerky City, a mixed-up Midas Touch affair where everything souls touch turns to processed meat; tops in the lust stakes is The Big Striptease Shower, where the damned cannot move and are fed a diet of stripteases, readings from pulpy novels, cold showers and nothing else.

Funds are raised by the souls paying rent, and the more competent your empire, the higher the percentage of the total income you get to keep. There are also ways to cut financial corners, most obviously by training your own staff and providing upgradable living quarters. Siphons strategically placed near rocks on the landscape will speed up building developments.

It can take many years to run at a profit so, long before start-up funds run low, you should also build a bank from which you can get loans at a later stage. But these should be built in Heaven rather than Hell, because, as you might expect, the former offers infinitely better terms and interest rates.

Drawbacks to the game include an unappealing black background for the board and, when buildings do explode colourfully across the landscape, they are too intricate and messy, injecting a claustrophobic feel to the proceedings.

Though elaborate and potentially engrossing, there are more immediate problems to the title. Afterlife comes with far too few instructions, leaving you to second-guess great chunks of the gameplay. This is possibly a marketing ploy — the thin pamphlet manual declares unashamedly that *to get the most out of Afterlife you'll* need Infotainment World's "Afterlife Official Player's Guide". It is likely to be interpreted as a fairly mean move on the part of LucasArts as would-be players need to fork out for both before they can really get started. More irritating, the book isn't even out in Britain yet.

In Afterlife, by LucasArts, you have to build and manage heaven and hell

The **After Dark** screen-saver, from Berkeley Systems, lit up many millions of monitors with a host of endearing options from flying toasters, destructive dogs and racing rats to the classiest monitor aquarium in town complete with dazzling schools of fish.

The latest collection in the series is **Totally Twisted**, serving up a more repulsive but somewhat limited mish-mash of possibilities including flying toilets, a murderous mower-man, bungee roulette and, replacing the ace aquarium, a toxic swamp.

If you have the original After Dark compilation, rest assured that you already own the much better product.

And so to **Cyberspace Twenty-Five** and our three winners. We asked readers aged between seven and 13 to complete in their own words an amusing limerick beginning: "There was a little lap top . . ."

Our first winner is Sam Blanning, 11, of Wisbech, Cambs, who wins with this entry:

"There was a little lap top
called Joy,
Who belonged to a bad little boy.
She got into some fights,
And lost all her bytes
And now she's no use as a toy."

Our second winner is Tim Jenkinson, 11, of Hawell, west London, who wrote:

"There was a little lap top
from VTech
Which sat on a boat on the C deck.
When it was switched on,
It power padded along
And went off into letters and
spell check."

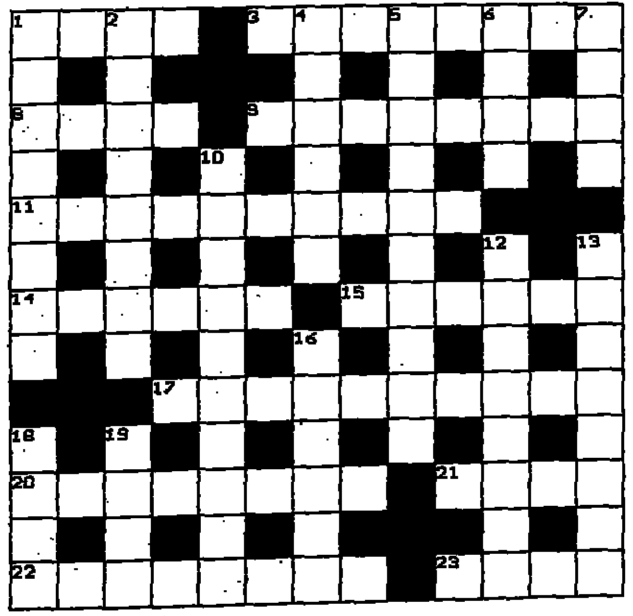
Our final winner is James Silk, 11, of Oxford, with:

"There was a little lap top
of Crewe
Who never knew just what to do.
He mixed Rom up with Ram,
Entered 'ounce' but meant 'gram'
I find that quite funny,
don't you?"

Congratulations to all three, who each win an £85 VTech Pre Computer Power Pad. The pad includes 1,000 trivia questions, an 80,000 word spell-check, ten word games and five maths activities.

"A perpetual holiday is a good working definition of hell." George Bernard Shaw (*Parents and Children*, 1914).

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 857

ACROSS
1 Reproduce; material for article (4)
3 Concise (8)
8 Stepped on (4)
9 Contemptuous (8)
11 Keeping together in herds (10)
14 Format of ceremony (6)
15 Rub out (6)
17 Expensive-holiday time (4,6)
20 Women-only gathering (3,5)
21 Throwing-line (darts) (4)
22 Appreciation formula (5,3)
23 Light-focusing device (4)

DOWN
1 Classification division (8)
2 Possessions; attribute (8)
4 Ragged child; hedgehog (6)
5 French 'little-hat' accent (10)
6 In uneducated taste (4)
7 William —, Swiss patriot (4)
10 Open-plan zoo (6,4)
12 Indiscriminate slaughter (8)
13 Eager state (8)
16 Poor-immigrant district (6)
18 Sharpen (4)
19 People of Peru once (4)

Solution to No 856

ACROSS: 1 Page 3 Pasteur 8 Strophe 9 Atoms 10 U-turn 11 Ongoing 13 Oversight 17 Vis-à-vis 19 Agile 20 Wiser 22 Instant 23 Lemming 24 Gear

DOWN: 1 Poseur 2 Garrulous 3 Prepossessing 4 Slang 5 Ego 6 Resign 7 Sponge 12 Intricate 14 Glassy 15 Avowal 16 Better 18 Verdi 21 Sam

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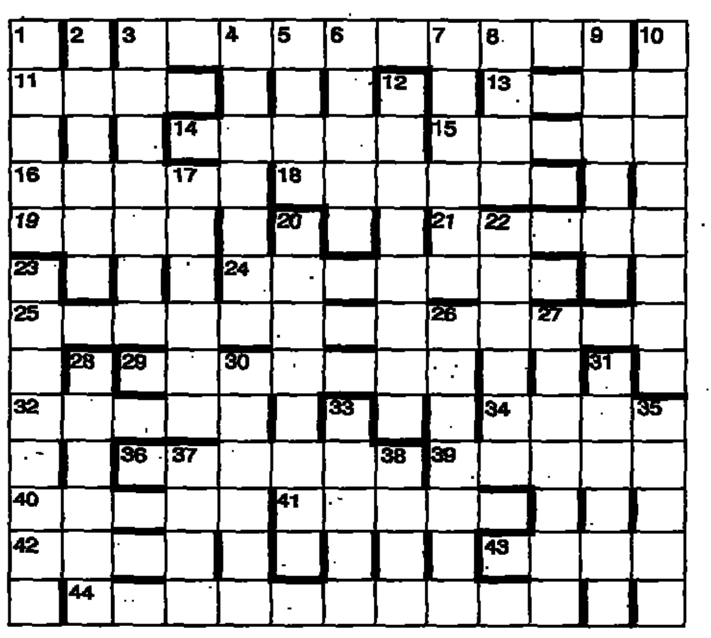
No 3370: Endgame by Charybdis

UNCLUED SOLUTIONS each suggest a different character and can lead solvers to the all-important phrase (5,2,3,7-5) on which this bit of fun is based. Other answers of a like nature, duly shaded in the diagram, show how near to losing you were!

ACROSS
3 (10) [5,10,20]
11 Harrow cleric's always away (4)
13 Could it ever fly? With velocity constant, certainly once — nearly! (4)
14 Note a lot of insects by old corpse (5)
15 "The Smell of Reeves . . ." — back with "French & . . ." (5)
16 Approaching it could mean death (5)
18 Company in transfer? — transfer to other company (6)
19 Old King Cole finally recalled introduction to rider (4)
21 (5) [2]
24 (7) [3,15]
25 Temperamental? So invite squabbling about bible extract (13)
29 Someone from other side hacked into drive for file (7)
32 Fit state for a dish? (5)
34 Hoarseness at auction sale in Dundee (4)
36 Charge with ascending's not hard but fine (6)
39 With snow around take grit (5)
40 Pack jolly set of books (5)
41 Bulb is lit — lit without current (5)
42 Too advanced players (4)
43 Old soldier, old impediment (4)
44 Bottom of bed's where pillow is found, Wally (10)

DOWN
1 (5) [13,14]
2 Flag, lifted and cut when in flower, will (6)
3 Draw close, arms raised with much delight (7)
4 Claudius vis-a-vis Hamlet's mannerisms: are they to do with upbringing? (7)
5 We've lines but no river fish (4)
6 If heist gets bungled, is — apprehended? (5)
7 Corporal's in this part of East End again (6)
8 Like One Thousand And One Nights overture? (4)
9 They (after he's sent off) moved inside to score (6)
10 (8) [4,11,16]
12 Unfortunate rogues, put into service, died (8)
17 It's terrible, but coming from London sounds odd in Scotland (6)
20 What in French is not translated is part of exam (8)
22 Stallion breaking into canter: it never comes back (6)
23 (8) [9,19]
26 Useful rock to flatten out tangle? (7, two words)
27 With teeth covered in green stuff and gold filling (7)
28 Red-breasted bird in cage — without a bit of rage conversely (6)
30 Sure Spanish newspaper editor went through papers carefully? (6)
31 Bedding plant container, according to US report, mostly useless initially (6)
33 Argentine once wrong-headedly creating "army"? (5)
35 (5) [1,6,8,22]
37 Plant tip blown over (4)
38 Out of date section of small print (4)



*Thematic phrase*____________________

LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3370

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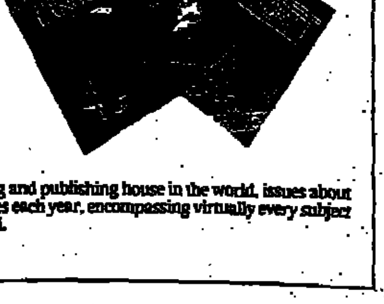
ADDRESS____________________

Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3370, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. *Entries must be received by Thursday, August 22.*

The winner will receive: The Cambridge Encyclopedia, the most up-to-date and comprehensive one-volume encyclopedia available, with more than 36,000 entries: The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language, a highly illustrated format embracing every aspect of the English language in one volume; and The Cambridge Guide to Literature, covering all the leading writers and movements in literature written in English up to the present. Two runners-up will receive The Cambridge Guide to Literature.



Cambridge University Press, the oldest printing and publishing house in the world, issues about 1,500 new publications in more than 190 countries each year, encompassing virtually every subject seriously studied in the English-speaking world.

Solution to No 3367: Slummer by Sabre

Days: 1. UNSTEP 2. KACHERI 3. ONESTEPS 4. OERSEW 5. PAH 6. YARPHAS 7. YOKS 8. LYSIGENIC 9. EPHAH 10. NIGHTWEAR 11. LUNCHING 12. HAREEM 13. ANYHOW 14. YALE

The unclued lights are all *HUTS*

Across: 1. ups-peak 7. lac(k)ing 13. E-Pilate 14. teas (hidden) 15. all-Is. 16. kohl, c.f. coal 17. G.-ay, 2 mngs 18. tear, 2 mngs, hidden 19. A.-go 21. (bol)t-sewed (anag.) 23. d.-piles (anag.) 28. O.D.'d 31. g(ame)-owl 32. elpee, hidden in reverse 33. can, 3 mngs 35. rue(rev.) - US 37. reran, hidden 38. ni-R.-l 39. guay (anag.)-ule 40. Eastre, hidden (s.v. Easter) 41. f.-I's-hey-(Sabr)e

Down: 1. hunte(r.), anag. 2. hang its (anag.) 3. pulwar, w. to s. 4. joanna, 2 mngs 5. pun-log 6. k.-w.-ela 7. l.-egis-t 8. has (anag.)-nib (rev.) 9. charge, 4 mngs 10. din-n.l.-e 11. method-(alle)y 12. (u)gly-cosy-l(ace) 18. T.-cheesed (anag.) 20. nth hidden 22. ach(shin)e-ve 24. s.-perms 25. P.-romp-T. 26. c.f. (b.)eerier 27. c.f. eye-sacks 29. dance (anag.)-l. 30. Sandy (blad)e, anag. 34. ar-go-t. 36. stele (last letters)

U	P	S	P	E	P	K	L	A	C	Y	N	G
C	O	T	H	O	U	S	E	S	H	I	E	L
E	N	I	L	A	T	E	S	H	A	N	T	Y
T	D	A	S	N	L	L	I	S	K	N	H	L
H	O	G	A	N	G	A	S	I	G	L	O	O
T	K	A	R	A	G	R	T	N	E	E	D	S
E	W	H	I	C	H	T	H	E	W	A	Y	Y
D	I	S	P	E	I	H	D	D	G	C	W	L
E	C	P	E	E	C	C	N	E	U	H	U	S
S	K	E	O	R	E	R	C	N	N	I	R	O
M	I	A	M	I	A	G	A	A	Y	U	L	E
H	U	M	P	Y	R	O	N	D	A	V	E	L
E	P	S	T	R	E	T	I	S	H	E	Y	E

The winner is A. Knight of Kingston, East Sussex. The two runners-up are N. Hoare of London N2, and P. Newton of Sheffield.

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

THE TIMES
cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

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A LIVELY, lovely, Liverpool lass living North London, traditional outlook with irreverent sense of fun. Looking for N/S emotionally mature, warm man 40-55. Photo to Box No 8067

AMERICAN/RUSSIAN lady, lawyer, 39, intense and varied cultural interests would like to meet tall gentleman with sense of humour. Reply Box 8051

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A-RATED! Beautiful (some say stunning), brainy young woman, many qualities, seeks N/S banker/entrepreneur or exceptional individual, 50 max. with elegant lifestyle to (eventually) form a happy home. London. Children welcome. Photo please. Box 8056

ARE you the man for me on NY Eve 1999? Shouldn't we start getting to know each other now. I'm pretty, independent, 42, passionate about life, my 2 children and creative career. You're warm, honest, strong & perceptive; A tall N/S Man-Of-The-World who values the world within. Like me, you're truly scrumptious and never thought you'd do this. I'm in Bristol, where are you? Write with photo to Box No 8010

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BUCKS, HERTS, Middlesex, Oxford, Berks. Why write to one lady, be in competition with many other men, when one phone call reverses the odds in your favour. Freephone 0500 888885 anytime Elite Introductions

CHANNEL ISLANDS lady 50's, classy, attractive, happy, sexually aware, missing caring relationship WLTM tall financially secure gentleman for lasting relationship prepared to contemplate 2 homes. Please Reply to Box No 8088

CHICHESTER/PORTSMOUTH 25m radius. Hundreds of lovely ladies, wanting to meet you. Elite Introductions Freephone now 0500 424568

CITY living, country loving, positive woman, late 30's WLTM similar tall N/S single man for sharing & enjoying life, ordinary & extraordinary times. Photo appreciated. London/Home Counties. Box No 8137

CREATIVE lady, slim, attractive, 50, n/s, seeks romantic, tallish man with GSOH and maybe an interesting car to share life. Surrey/London Photo appreciated Please Reply Box 8075

DEVON/Ex London. Intelligent, attractive, single lady, shy, 57, WLTM active, positive man (55-65) for companionship. Photo please. Box No 8121

DRAMA lecturer, green eyed, very attractive, charismatic, perceptive, adventurous spirit (55) seeks educated, professional man with literary, theatrical, musical interests & lively personality. Photo please. Berks/W London. Reply to Box No 8129

EASY-GOING, attractive, sociable 39 yr old with GSOH. Looking for genuine & sincere friendship. Loves music, sport, dancing & entertaining. Photo essential. Londonbased. Please Reply to Box No 7988

ELEGANT petite, intelligent, black lady seeks successful, honest businessman for companionship who enjoys the Arts, Socialising, GSOH, outgoing personality and participating in the Social Calendar. Please Reply to Box No 8131

FEMININE slim, stylish attractive woman Herts based seeks friendship with attractive cultured caring 60+ prof man with humour Photo if poss Box 8139

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FREE to travel. Well healed & attractive, erudite & charming, N/S & sporty, public school man (50-65), with lively mind & GSOH sought by Honor Blackman lookalike to share myriad interests (incl. sailing!) & life in London pad & lovely Med seaside house. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box No 7979

FUN-LOVING slim, attractive prof young 42 year old, no ties, WLTM attractive professional male (35-45) with GSOH & kind personality to enjoy good food, travel, theatre, fun & laughter. Photo & tel no please. London based. Reply to Box No 8020

GENTLE Knight,cultured, solvent, GSOH, n/s, 60+ required for attractive, educated damsel, 50+ in need of cherishing. Wide interests. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 8000

GERMANY Based British Business woman, GSOH, loves to go out to the cinema, Restaurants, and loves to travel. 25 yrs and looking for that special person to sweep me off my feet, aged between 26yrs-36yrs. Distance not an issue!! Please reply with photo to Box No 7931

GREEN EYED, fair haired, 1944 vintage, Devon based lady wonders what to do with the rest of her life. Loves music, family and friends, watching all sport, laughter and positive thinking. Any ideas? Photo appreciated & returned. Reply to Box No 8012

HAPPY but lonely Sussex country lady (49) seeks unattached honest man (50-60) to share outdoor interests, maybe more. Photo please. Reply to Box No 8022

HAPPY, silly country girl 32, graduate, seeks jolly, kind chap to have some fun with. Sussex. Please Reply to Box No 8011

HOMELOVING blonde widow, stylish, 62, solvent, happy disposition. Interests: countryside, theatre, travel, cooking, entertaining (social & quiet) WLTM confident, outgoing, caring gentleman (60+). Lancs based. Photo please. Box 8135

IMMEDIATE vacancy exists for a humorous, caring unattached gentleman (50+) who is seeking T.L.C. & a committed relationship. Please reply with photo/phone to this attractive, slim, divorced female, whose interests include music, theatre & travel. Box No 7902

LADY 58 graduate living in Central London, would love to meet someone (possibly widower) with similar establishment-type background for friendship. Plse. reply Box No 8054

LANCS, MERSEY, Cheshire. Looking for that special lady we can help you find her. Discreet home consultations, free, no obligation! Call Maggie at Elite Intro's 01695 625681: 7 days

LOOKING for an exceptional man, 35 - 45ish, N/S, London/Home Counties with time and energy for a relationship. I am tall, slim, attractive, vivacious, solvent, sporty, well-educated and many. If the same adjectives apply to you, write with photo, please. Reply to Box No 8007

LOOKING for help with my golf handicap. I'm a successful, outgoing, slim, attractive lady (modest too!) mid 30's London based, looking for a confident, fun loving man 40+. Photo/tel. no. appreciated. Box No 8071

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MEN of the Midlands, you won't believe your luck! Over 300 ladies waiting now! Special summer offer open 7 days call Elite Free 0500 003444

MUSICAL lady, 50, petite, enjoys art, eating out, travelling and country walks WLTM a confident prof man, 48-60, n/s, with GSOH for friendship/lasting relationship. Interested? Please call call Cheryl Brown at Candleburners 0171 371 5535

NOT a regular to this section, but I know the man I'd love to meet is out there, so worth a try. He's attractive, intelligent aged from about 38-48, is sincere and down to earth, enjoys travel. This lady won't disappoint him. Letter & photo please. Reply to Box No 8067

NOTTS, LEICS, LINCS. One call brings access to 100's of Elite ladies through Elite Introductions Freephone 0500 505007

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

OUTGOING young 50's attractive petite lady of independent means. GSOH, n/s, well travelled, loves theatre, period homes, good food, countryside. WLTM kindred spirit, 50-60ish, prof gentleman. London/South East Counties Photo please. Reply Box 8019

PASSIONATE, very attractive 49yrs Japanese graduate, 5 ft 3, stylish, homeloving. Interests: sports, theatre, opera seeks N/S university graduate, unattached, professional or medical doctor for serious relationship. Photo appreciated. London based. Reply to Box No 8070

PRETTY widow, early 60's, fit, enjoys countryside, dining out seeking educated N/S widower 60-70 to help walk my dogs, etc. Photo plse. SE Wales/ Herefordshire. Reply Box No 8006

RAVEN-HAIRED, warm, slim, striking woman, having recent escaped the rat race (but still loves to visit) seeks evolved, sensitive N/S male (50+) to complete Cornish idyll & share country walks, cosy evenings, the Arts, crafts & travel. Cornwall/London. Recent photo appreciated. Box No 8029

RUSSIAN, 26, daughter 7, lives in Northern Russia, house in Moscow, attractive, tall, slim, blonde, speaks some English, seeks a serious-minded professional man. 28+. Photo please. Reply to Box No 7915

SAILORESS marooned nr York seeks visitor's moorings alongside N/S harbourmaster 50+ with wide interests including words, wine & wandering. Reply with photo to Box 8083

SKIING in Montana, chess by my log fire, falconry in Scotland or cockles in the East End - it would never be dull if you sip the cocktail of life with this gorgeous, warm, green eyed 5'8" blonde with sparkling personality & smile to match. She seeks a strong, 6ft+ man, 35-45 for loving relationship & future together. London based. Photo please to Box No 7951

SLAVONIC lady, 47, divorced, elegant & caring, seeks sincere, affluent, tall, prof, n/s man, 45-60. Reply to Box No 7954

STUNNING, black prof lady (36), warm, romantic, GSOH, Christian values, publicly/privately educated, down to earth seeks single, sincere, caring, good looking, quality prof gentleman 37-42 for relationship, maybe more. London based. Photo. Reply to Box No 8113

SURREY/HAMPSHIRE Ladies of quality and integrity (25-80) it really works! with Elite Introductions Tel 01962 773285

SURREY MEN 30-65 years required for our female membership. Call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165

VERY attractive, 39, fun loving, vivacious, affectionate, kind hearted, GSOH, romantic, honest, intelligent, successful independent lady seeks similar English gentleman fit, well spoken, solvent, sophisticated, 5'8-6' tall. Photo & telephone no please. Box no 7959

VERY good looking American woman (58) spends time in London & Mexico. WLTM intelligent humorous solvent man 60+ who is free to join me from time to time? Box No 8028

WARM, attractive, professional lady, 40, enjoys food, wine, travel and walking. WLTM professional man with similar interests. North Yorkshire. Please Reply to Box No 8008

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WARM, lively petite blonde enigma, 45, living in Hampshire countryside. Homeloving and maternal but well travelled and independent. Musically and artistically challenged but enjoys the theatre, cinema, good food and wine. Can't play tennis but loves to ride, ski and sail. Leading busy life but Has Kit Car and will travel to find that special person able to recharge the batteries. Must be understanding, sensitive, non smoking, optimistic, solvent and with a sense of fun and adventure. Reply to Box 7963

YORKS/ANY shire, slim single seeks closeencounter, travel, humour, romance, culture, joy: rural gent 50-60 Box No 7896

ZZZzzz Wake up! Close Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

TALL, Romantic, attractive former model w/GSOH seeks financially secure English gentleman, 50-60 N/S, for LTR & possibly marriage. If interested in travelling & would enjoy living in Florida part time & England also, kindly respond ASAP! Recent photo please. Please Reply to Box No 7663

TALL, slender, elegant lady with humour, loves travel antiques, restaurants, fashion, etc. seeks genuine, secure gentleman 5'10"+ (40-55) for lasting relationship. North Notts/ Derbys / Lincs. Photo please. Box 7806

TALL, slender, elegant lady with humour, loves travel antiques, restaurants, fashion, etc. seeks genuine, secure gentleman 5'10"+ (45-55) for lasting relationship. North Notts/ Derbys / Lincs. Photo please. Box 7806

TRADITIONAL yet modern, professional but care-giving brunette, Hove based, WLTM gentleman 45-60 enjoying opera, wine & food with a sense of adventure. Photo. Box 7856

OPTIMISTIC woman, mid forties, WLTM uncomplicated & adventurous male similar age for friendship & travel. London/ Home Counties. Box No 7934

PAMELA Anderson I'm not, much more a Grace Kelly type I'd say. Tall, blue-eyed lady, mid 40's, with busy travel industry career needs some fun and laughter in her life. Are you N/S, 5'10"+, well mannered, unpretentious & genuinely a nice guy? Richmond/London area. Photo guarantees reply. Please Reply to Box No 7796

PERSIAN Beauty, petite, slim, dark eyed, sensuous, young 30's, educated, financially secure seeks attractive, tall, 35-50 gentleman with country house for friendship & perhaps more. London based. Please Reply to Box No 7862

SPORTY, attractive, slim, 41, divorced, likes tennis, swimming, cinema, theatre. WLTM N/S male 37-47 (preferably with USA interests), GSOH, kind, generous, sincere for friendship, love & whatever follows. London/Herts. Photo. Box7875

KIWI invites Successful Suitors. Me - 36, attractive, sporty, working, 2 children. Lincs based.Reply to Box No 7929

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GENTLEMEN

ADVENTUROUS late 30's male, warm & sensitive seeks lady to share & enjoy life's pleasures - sunsets, sea breezes, music & wine. Photo appreciated. Midlands based. Reply Box 8018

ALONE in Devon, n/s aged 47, own home seeks lady 32-45, for long walks and talks can you help? Reply Box 8120

A MISSING ingredient - a stylish lady, who is lively, independent but wanting a close special relationship. I am a young 44, tall, in good shape, attractive, n/s, a designer, down to earth with a GSOH. I enjoy eating out, cooking, keeping fit, visiting exhibitions and travel. SW London. Reply with photo to Box No 7925

ANCIENT town & country reprobate of some culture with own teeth and hair WLTM lady (55+) with GSOH, zest for life & wide interests. Anywhere. Photo please to Box No 8098

ARE you 35ish? Do you make people laugh? Are you essentially creative, understood by few, attractive to many. Talented, highly articulate, well educated, resourceful, dismayed by shallow, ordinary, predictable? Then you are probably an achiever in some way and have become perhaps dauntingly selective but determined to find a seriously interesting partner of integrity, substance, with broad horizons, humour and originality, correspondingly attractive and unencumbered. This is definitely not something that you would do. It seems bizarre. That's two more things we have in common. Please write with a photo. S Midlands.Box 8036

ARE YOU a vivacious, fun loving, slim & attractive female 35-45 looking for fun & adventure/ romance with solvent attractive divorced 45, 6 ft professional gentleman who loves skiing, tennis, travel, etc. Photo appreciated. Midlands based. Reply to Box No 8062

A SOUTH of Midlands, slim spinster to love, cherish and help rescue/ share my 3½ yr girl, lost Notting Hill. I'm fit, tall, slim, handsome, 68, fond of Liszt, Chopin, piano, organ. Quiet life, country, now London. Reply to Box No 8109

ASSERTIVE, strong-willed female. Do you fit the bill? If so, educated English gentleman, 47, Solvent, no ties, GSOH, politely requests you to communicate with him to discuss how we might pursue a relationship to our mutual satisfaction. Please Reply to Box No 8106

ATTRACTIVE, humorous and unattached lady (45 plus) sought by N/S divorced (60) man living in central London with house in Florida. Interests enjoying life, dining, theatre and romance. Photograph ensures response to hopefully share future. Reply Box 8005

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BRUSSELS Lawyer (45) is looking for a lovely and intelligent genuine British lady. Photo please. Reply to Box No 8090

BUCKS, HERTS, Middlesex. Oxford, Berks, Why write to one gentleman, be in competition with many other ladies, when one phone call reverses the odds in your favour. Freephone 0500 888885 anytime Elite Introductions

CHALLENGING female sought by caring, responsive, optimistic 40's male. Box No 8078

CHELSEA based Managing Director. 6 ft 2 in, slim, dark-haired, 50, divorced, no children, hardworking and successful, genuinely seeks attractive lady, 27-43 who is fun company. Interesting and sensuous and who enjoys wining & dining, overseas travel, country hotel weekends, music & theatre. Do write enclosing a photo to Box No 8053

CHICHESTER/PORTSMOUTH 25m radius. 100's of professional gentlemen wanting to meet you. Elite Introductions Freephone now 0500 424568

DESTINY intended I should be an explorer, fate consigned me to being a designer, 49. Seeks female with own compass, map and sense of adventure. Kent/ Surrey based. Box No 7908

DISTINGUISHED, tall, slim, good-looking, fit, early 50s, extensively travelled professional, London based, who has led exciting life, but now wishes to find ultimate partner, with calming influence, and fade away into the sunset. She should enjoy travel, walking/ exploring, dancing and the arts. Having children is no barrier to happiness. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 8024

EASY-GOING, 42, and 6'2" with own business WLTM independent like-minded slim, attractive lady ready and willing to share exciting but currently unfulfilled lifestyle. Living in Cotswolds I'm into flying, travel, cars, and all the good things in life. Please reply, photo appreciated and returned. Box No 7850

EVERYONE wants to be someones hero. Can I be yours? This successful, well presented professional, 34, 6 ft, VGSOH, with an enquiring mind; likes travel, history, conversation, chocolate, cinema. Seeks young lady 24-34, N/S, any nationality, kind, fun, stylish, Wilts/Berks/ Oxon/ Glos/ Avon. Photo please. Reply to Box No 8124

FANCY company for a walking holiday in Italy/Greece (late Sept)? Tell this easy going chap, wide interests especially classical music (56, legally separated, n/s), about yourself, where you'd like to go, why. Prior meeting essential (Cambridge, Colchester, Harlow area preferred, London ok). Please Reply to Box No 8039

FIT professional 29 yr old bloke, own business, etc. , enjoys music, keeping fit, motor bikes, looking for female 24-33, stylish, refined for fun & whatever that leads to. London based. Photo please. Box No 8015

FIT 50's, separated, London-based Australian (with international connections), seeks confident, independent female companionship for London-life and overseas travel, sharing sophisticated intellectual, cultural and sporting interests. Please Reply to Box No 7765 Photo appreciated. All responses acknowledged.

HAMPSHIRE/SURREY Gentlemen (25-80) lose your heart the sensible way. It really works! Call now Elite Introductions 01962 773285

HAPPY, optimistic, caring, weatherbeaten, single, free spirited male, 35, Surrey, seeks curious, articulate, sensitive bright female for exploriong new horizons. Box No 7877

IF you are affluent, wear Escada, Jaeger or Joy & wish to meet, I will marry you. Late 50's, 6 ft, Interests: cinema, theatre, dining out. etc. Box No 7949

I'M A regular guy - 44, tall, fit & N/S. I've never done this before. I'm successful, unattached & long to meet a sophisticated woman to share a sincere & quality relationship. Under 40, slim, unattached, blue eyed, fair haired & professional would be ideal. Interests: theatre, town/country pursuits, travel. London/Berks area. Plse send photo. ALA. Box No 8016

INDEPENDENT English traveller seeks companion for New Zealand, Australia and South Africa this winter. If you are fit, about 40 and fun, with strong interests to add to mine of climbing, sailing, wine, cuddles and the unexpected, then dash off a quick note right now to Box No 7987

LADIES Ex-pat and American gentlemen are waiting to meet you for friendship and romance. Phone Liaison 01843 580977

LANCS, MERSEY, Cheshire. Looking for that special man we can help you find him. Discreet home consultations, free, no obligation! Call Maggie at Elite Intro's 01695 625681: 7 days

LONDON + Paris based cosmopolitan professional. Public school & university educated. 40, fair, 1.75 m, single, very fit, unmaterialistic seeks similar background unconventional lady to share a wide range of adventure sports, gourmet food, global travelling and life's pleasures. Photo perhaps? Please Reply to Box No 8009

LONDON. Youthful 39 executive, kind, considerate, wicked SOH, fun loving, educated, travelled, sporty. Seeks similar 30s-ish trim attractive female, Chiswick region. Letter & photo plse. London Box No 7957

LONDON tall, slim professional male 32 enjoys travel, drinking & eating out, cinema & most sports seeks warm sensitive lady to make life complete. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 8073

LONGING to be as angels of delight with hearts warm & sincere. This quiet lawyer working in the south who is also friendly & kind wishes to meet lady (25-42) for genuine relationship. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 8002

MALE 48 looks more like Carter than Hasselhoff, divorced, 6', slim, active athlete, some cultural and travel interests. Non smoker. Own home. Bromley based. Reply Box No 7910

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MATHEMATICS is my favourite subject. 36 years old, male, single, Japanese nationality, accountant, part time student in Mathematics. I am looking for someone who can share same views. Box No 7956

MATURE businessman, experienced skipper & scuba diver seeks fit, adventurous, very attractive lady to share travel, sun, sea, & love. Herts based. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 7990

NEEDED, slender, elegant, articulate, sensitive, N/S lady of 50 or so summers to share life and the arts (esp. Opera), and more, with caring man. Photo essential. (S.W. London) Box No 8074

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NOW for someone different. Overseas (sunny) attractive mid-40's businessman, grad, romantic wandering star, seeks clever, pretty, articulate, exotic lady, 30-40ish to tease and talk to. You? Photo please. Box 8048

PETERBOROUGH businessman, 43, interests music, art, antiques WLTM attractive, intelligent, slimmish career girl, 35 plus, within reasonable distance, for fun, friendship & hopefully much more Box 7843

PRIVATE Investigator, lonely 40 yr old seeks intelligent exciting woman. London area. Photo please to Box No 8017

PROFESSIONAL male, graduate, 54, unattached, medium build, 5'10", N/S, fit, caring, outgoing, amiable, successful, many urban & rural interests, including sport, music, theatre, travel, animals. Family now flown. Seeks similar, sincere, attractive, intelligent lady for exclusive relationship London/ Sussex. Recent photo/Tel no. appreciated. Box No 7840

ROMANTIC Piscean widower, retired, well travelled photographer, 60's, lonely WLTM warm, intelligent, artistic, petite lady 50-60 for committed relationship. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 8130

SHEFFIELD or near. Widower 60s 6ft slim fit and very active N/S. WLTM tall, slim, N/S cultured country loving lady, with interests in theatre, art, music, travel and good food & wine. Photo please. Box No 8079

SINGLE, professional, attractive, caring, male 34, fit and sporty. Very solvent, enjoys skiing, walking, and countryside. Seeks attractive, affectionate, N/S, single female, 23-32 for lasting relationship. Hunts, Berks, Surrey. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 8061

SINGLE prof, n/s male, 37, 5'11, GSOH, no ties, own home, enjoys life. WLTM single lady 27-45 to share happy times. N London/Home Counties. Photo please to Box No 8125

SPORTY young professional (29) enjoys skiing, walking and tennis. Seeks lady (22-30) with similar interests to form lasting relationship. Midlands based, Please reply with photo to Box No 7960

SUCCESSFUL, high achiever, 34, 6', handsome debonair. Vegetarian, strong but sensitive. V. Masterful, passionate libido. Are you lively yet soulful, curvaceous and slim. I travel much and love adventure but also log fires and closeness. Let's meet for laughter, smiles and perhaps love. Photo (preferably yours) appreciated and reciprocated. (I'm South-East, you anywhere.) Plse Reply to Box 7865

SUNTANNED and sincere guy with good personality, self aware & into keep fit & sport, slim, well spoken & educated, 37, seeks romance with similar, tall slim lady (27-34), photo please. North West. Box 8004

SURREY ladies 30-65 years required for our male membership. Call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165

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TALL, attractive, sexy hunk, 38, professional, genuine, well educated, witty, worldly, wasted! Seeks fantasy lady - attractive, bubbly, classy, curvy, sexy (black stockings and stilettos essential), wicked, "30-45ish", for romantic fun. I know you're out there! Photo please. Berks/London. Reply to Box No 7904

TALL, attractive, sexy London man 40, wicked sense of humour, well travelled and full of energy seeks a younger woman to pamper and for champagne, passion and romance. For some Summer fun, frolics and friendship with a successful man who knows how to enjoy life. Please write to Box No 8034

TALL, dark, sexy looking character (mid 30's) in the entertainment business. WLTM mouth watering lady 25-35 with flair and confidence for fun, friendship and more. London based. Photo please. Box No 8119

WILTS Male 45, tall, attractive seeks lady 25-40 to share fun times. Reply to Box No 7818

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GAY man, mature, resident West Country. WLTM companion for travel and love. Box No 8086

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SUCCESSFUL, high achiever, 34, 6', handsome debonair. Vegetarian, strong but sensitive. V. Masterful, passionate libido. Are you lively yet soulful, curvaceous and slim. I travel much and love adventure but also log fires and closeness. Let's meet for laughter, smiles and perhaps love. Photo (preferably yours) appreciated and reciprocated. (I'm South-East, you anywhere.) Plse Reply to Box 7855

SUCCESSFUL entrepreneur, 45, slim sporty, loves the good life, travel, restaurants, theatre, opera, loves entertaining, seeks attractive, slim lady (25-35) with whom to share it all. London based. Photo please Reply to Box No 7819

SUCCESSFUL Managing Director retaining his ex-hippy personality is looking for something into stockings which ain't quite Santa Claus for fun times in London and possibly more. Photo preferred Box No 7933

ROMANTIC professional male, 38, 6'1" with GSOH WLTM a kind, attractive female for a loving caring relationship. London. Photo. Box No 7842

SINCE most things in life are better when shared, a nice, warm, witty, graduate, professional man, 49, wishes to tempt a petite, pretty, clever woman out of hiding. Midlands based. Please Reply to Box No 7911

SOME like it hot in Phoenix, Ariz. Slender pretty blonde, 34, professional, loves golf, Newport Beach. Seeks warm, cuddly, intelligent Prince Charming, not Charles. Don't be shy. Love, adventure and a new life await you. Please Reply to Box No 7685

MISSION Impossible - Do you crave excitement? Do you know how to have fun? Do you love champagne? Are you a lady between 22 and 35? Are you looking for someone special? I'm warm, romantic, creative and caring, 29, slim and fit. I know how to laugh, cry and enjoy life -I'm looking for someone to enjoy it with. I'm Bucks based, but then distance is travel,relative. Reply to Box No 7746

NON-SMOKER, non-drinker man 30, sincere, faithful, GSOH, looking for Ms. Right. Age 22-30 for long term relationship, possible marriage. London/Essex. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 7707

LOOKING for someone special to share life, love and laughter? Do you enjoy La Boheme, Giselle, The Eagles and skiing? Care to talk it over? William: gently humorous, emotionally supportive, professional, independent, 5'10", 47. You: interesting, slim-hipped woman, late 20-early 30s. No smokers, bigots, grouches please. Photo (of you, preferably) app. SE. Box No 7672

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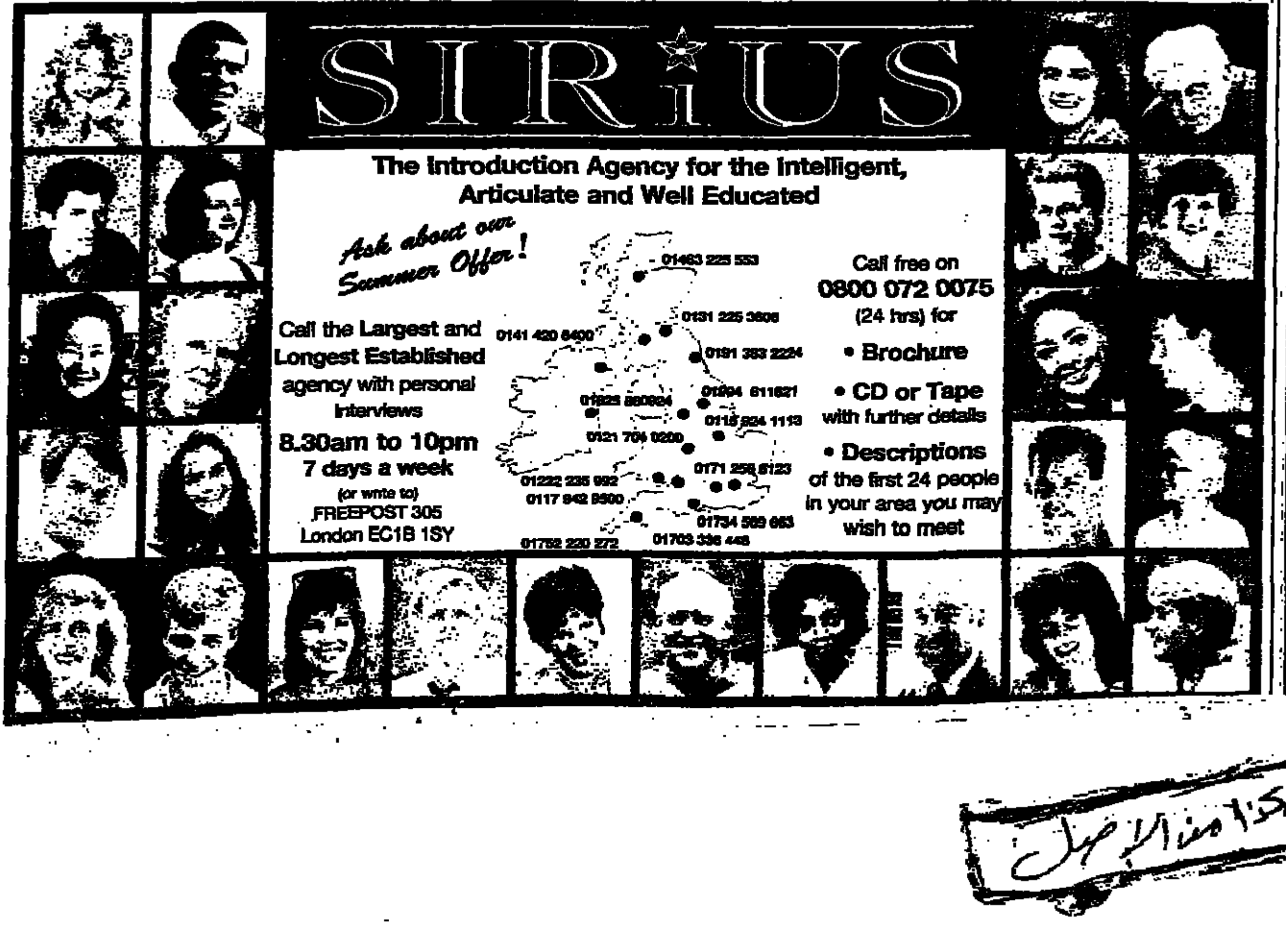

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The virgin author seduced by naughty cars

Page 5

Tank girls fire blanks in battle of the sexes

Page 12

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 1996

A nice day out for **Kevin Eason**, celebrating the GT40's anniversary by trying a rare example, but then . . .

Going, going, gone: £350,000 worth of racing thoroughbred spins out of control at Silverstone (top). The model won Le Mans four times consecutively, but in safer hands than our reporter's (inset) who was left inspecting the damage

Oops, I crashed Ford's birthday

Smiles as thin as cheesewire *told me all I needed to* know as the car headed back to the pits. There were reassuring noises not to worry and a pat on the shoulder from the nice Ford lady whose face was so brave it could have conquered an empire.

But Paul Fleming, the mechanic in charge of the car, sucked the air *over his teeth as he looked at the* damage, in the way mechanics do just before they charge a *squillion* pounds for your banger to get through its *MoT*. "Well, after 30 years, I *suppose* it was bound to happen," he admitted.

The car, you see, was special: a Ford GT40, one of the breed that won the Le Mans 24-hour endurance race four times in a row in the 1960s; *current* value around £350,000. The plot for this article was supposed to be a *celebration*, with our correspondent driving a GT40 in the 30th year of the company's most fabled victory when the cars crossed the finish line in 1-2-3 formation at Le Mans.

Ford kindly loaned its prized, pale-green GT40 Number One, as driven by Mario Andretti, to K. Eason, *motoring editor, The Times* of London, to be driven at *Silverstone, home of the* British Grand Prix. I was then due to show off furiously *in front of assembled* learner Formula Ford drivers before the GT40 went back under its flysheet and I reported back to awestruck readers.

Sometimes, however, the script *has a surprise ending* and *an added* page of excuses. The day was dull and squally *(excuse number one — editor)* but undaunted, I turned up at Silverstone to meet the GT40. It is simply one of the most beautiful sports cars of the century: curvy, short, fat and just 40 inches high — hence the GT40 name.

Paul *fired up the* 4.7-litre V8 to let me listen to the incredible blast *from its twin exhausts . . . except* we had to switch it off because Silverstone, one of the world's most famous racetracks, is not allowed to run noisy race cars before 10am. So much for the British officialdom and the romance of motor racing.

So we watched the little single-seater Formula Fords buzzing (quietly) around the Silverstone track until we could get a half-hour slot to *release 30 years of pent-up* GT40 power. That gave me time to study *the GT40's remarkably spartan* interior *(excuse two — ed. I'm counting)* with an *oddball* collection of switches and the 200mph speedo set to the far left of the dashboard, the longitudinally mounted, five-speed gearbox to my right. But the seat was fixed and my jockey-sized legs were too short to reach the pedals, so Paul shoved six inches of foam behind my back to *get me into* some sort of position to drive *(Is that three? — ed.)*

The crash helmet went on, bumping against the low roof, and *I waited for my slot . . . and then the heavens opened*. Rain came down in torrents and the track was *covered in inches of standing water (excuse four, I gather)*. The Formula Ford cars came in, *rained off like* a flotilla of porous ducks in weather not fit for . . . well, ducks. Which is when I got the thumbs up to go. Great. Terrific. Super. Thanks chaps: 380 horsepower of lightweight Le Mans-winning sportscar to drive in the wet.

There was no give in the clutch, *just a press and pull back* into the dogleg first gear and then off onto the circuit. Press the throttle and power oozed into the car — but I *was determined to be careful*, after all this was an historic £350,000 car (£350,000 being the operative part *of that sentence). Brake early for* the first left-hander and then back *on the power*.

Hey, this was not so difficult. Try more power, then more and the car was starting to fly. Watch the overconfidence though: throttle flat down on the back straight and change up from second to third and the rear wheels simply spun before gripping as the rain hammered out a salsa rhythm on the windscreen. Now the car was dancing, wiggling more than Marilyn Monroe at a presidential birthday party.

But I didn't care: Andretti, eat your heart out. Ten laps in and a blast out of the last left-hander into the *straight and loads of throttle . . .* 90mph, 100, 110, 120, 125 . . . then *hammer the brakes* and . . . nothing. The car was surfing on the water. No steering, no brakes, nothing.

The whole thing took seconds but seemed like hours: I sat impassive at the wheel, watching the world go by in a time zone so slow I could have got my knitting out to keep busy. I was powerless as to what was happening outside as the car slewed left, spun hard into the barrier and then pirouetted twice more to a standstill. Hmmm, time to go home. As the car spluttered to a standstill, I waited for the *damage report: lamp cluster and* front bodywork gone *(we're not paying for damage — ed)*.

Not serious but reasonably spectacular, I decided, and found myself playing the part of plucky Northerner: "Never mind, it could have been worse." (My mouth opened and it just came out.) "At least it will mend." (Shut up now.) Paul did his *In Which We Serve* Noel Coward: "Chin up. You did your best, young man." All that stuff. But, let's face it — I broke a rare £350,000 car. *(I know. You're fired — ed.)*

The glory year, 1966, when the Ford GT40 team finished in formation at the Le Mans 24-hour race in first, second and third places

Ford

INSIDE

Ford: founding centenary

■ **HENRY FORD** started his car company 100 years ago *and created one of the* world's most powerful corporations. *Car 96* today examines the origins of the man who built his first car in a brick outhouse.

■ **PAGE TWO** is the story of Henry and how he came to Britain at the birth of our motor industry.

■ **PAGE THREE** celebrates some of the models that made the blue oval one of the most famous badges in the world.

Of course we build cars which last longer.
We've been building them longer.

Mercedes-Benz
Used Cars

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **London**

M1 junction 2 (A1, Hendon) slip-road flyovers connecting the M1 and the A1 closed for long-term emergency repairs. Diversions.

A23 Brixton Road; repairs at the junction with Stockwell Road mean diversions and major congestion.

A40 Hillingdon Circus has bridge work on the westbound entry and eastbound exit slip roads with traffic down to a single lane through a contraflow.

A302 Westminster Bridge closed from 9pm Friday to 5am Monday for reconstruction work, use Lambeth Bridge as an alternative.

A306 Rocks Lane; temporary lights off peak and at weekends for bridge work near the junction with Ranelagh Gardens. Delays to and from Hammersmith bridge.

A408 Shepherds Bush; roadworks on Askew Road with temporary lights.

● **South East**

M4 junctions 12-14; overnight lane closures in both directions from taking the motorway down to a single lane at times.

A321 Twyford to Wargrave Road; closed to through traffic. Diversions.

A4007 Slough Road; closed between Cherry Tree Lane and the junction with Saint Johns Road.

A4130 between Didcot and Wallingford; lane closures with temporary lights around the clock.

M20 junction 8; roadworks on the roundabout above the motorway with one lane closed.

A20 Cheriton; lane closures in both directions.

M25 junctions 6-10; restrictions over the 19-mile stretch.

● **South West**

A381 Teignmouth; major improvement work between Salcombe Dip and Inverteign Drive with temporary lights controlling daytime traffic.

A38 Gloucester; roadworks at Cole Avenue roundabout will cause long delays and affect traffic from Shepherd Road.

A3027 Taunton; temporary lights on North Street — delays throughout the day in the town centre.

A3102 Swindon; major roadworks at the Mannington roundabout with traffic down to single lane. Long delays.

● **Midlands and East Anglia**

A46 Kenilworth bypass; contraflow, speed restrictions and occasional lane closures. Delays at peak periods.

A6 Lockington; major roadworks with a contraflow from just north of M1 junction 24 to Sawley Island (B6540).

A500 Stoke On Trent; roadworks on The Queensway (known locally as the D Road) from Talke to Porthill with one lane open in both directions.

A4123 Dudley; sewer work on Birmingham New Road at the Tipton Road junction. The Northbound carriageway down to a single lane.

A632 Near Chesterfield; roadworks with local diversions operating on Langwith Road at Bolsover Lane.

● **North**

A167M Newcastle; roadworks on Central motorway between Jesmond Road and New Bridge Street roundabout. Delays at peak periods.

M6 junction 20-21A; widening work with three narrow lanes in both directions near the Thelwall Viaduct, with some slip-roads reduced to a single lane.

M1 junction 47 lane closures and 30mph speed restriction around the Leeds junction.

A630 Sheffield; contraflow in Sheffield City Centre on the Parkway near the Park Square roundabout.

M18 junction 1-M1; contraflow between Rotherham and Thurcroft. Delays during peak periods.

● **Wales**

A470 Llyswen; temporary lights at Llangoed Hall.

A472 Pontypool; contraflow between Pontemoile and the Heron roundabout.

A4051 Newport; lane closures between M4 junction 26 and Woodlands Avenue. Overnight junction closures.

M4 junction 34-35; contraflow between Miskin and Pencoed. Long peak delays.

● **Scotland**

A90 Aberdeen; restrictions at the roundabouts either side of the bridge of Dee.

M8 junction 15; traffic reduced to two lanes westbound and restrictions eastbound.

A8 Edinburgh City Centre; Princes Street closed eastbound to all private vehicles. Diversions operating via South Charlotte Street, Queen Street and York Place due to the new traffic management scheme.

M8 junctions 30-29; 8pm - 6am, eastbound carriageway is closed with diversions operating through Erskine via Barnsford Road. M898 slip road also closed.

● **Northern Ireland**

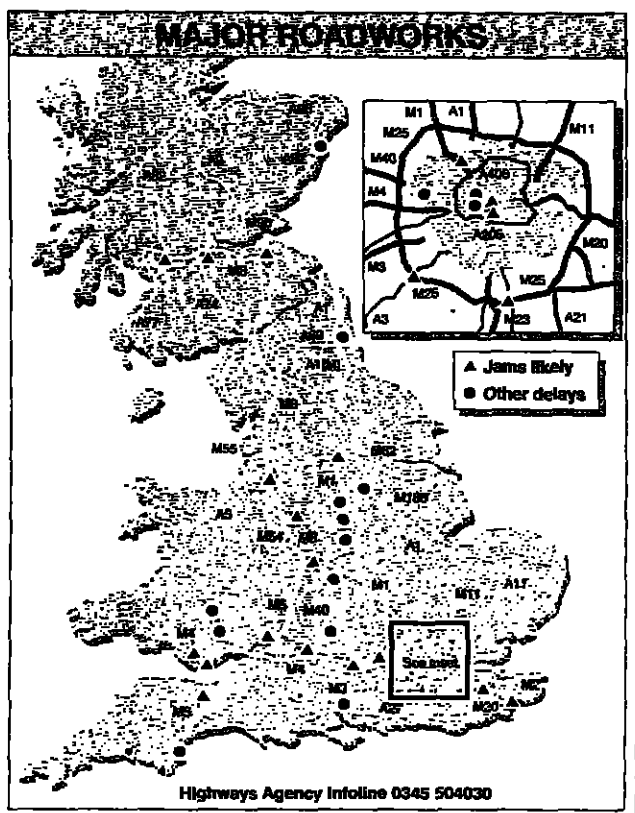
M1 junctions 10-11; traffic reduced to hard shoulder only in both directions between Lough Road and Ballinacor.

A3 Portadown; widening work at junction with Mill Avenue.

A22 Downpatrick; Old Belfast Road closed from Strangford Road to Quoile Road. Diversions.

A29 Cookstown; traffic on Loy Road reduced to a single alternate lane.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Paranoia rules

WHAT scares you most on the road? A big accident? Hitting a tree? Actually, we are afraid of each other, according to research by Direct Line Insurance. It found that 73 per cent of women and half of men were worried that a minor ding would result in another driver's road rage. Their advice: stay in the car until you assess the mood of the other driver, be friendly, lock the doors and use a mobile telephone to call for help if things get out of control. Or you could always offer them one of your sweeties.

Back on three wheels

RELIANT is back in production with orders worth around £750,000. The company was rescued from receivership earlier this year and will start producing 15 of its three-wheeler Robins a week. The company at Tamworth in Staffordshire has also increased its staff from 12 to 38.

New boss for BMW

NEW boss at at the British arm of BMW will be Kevin Gaskell, who previously headed Porsche's operations here. Gaskell makes his move at a good time, with BMW sales booming and the new 5-series already a sell-out success.

Yuppie's fave hits 50

PORSCHE, meanwhile, has been celebrating a milestone: the model planned as a limited edition of 50 has sold a million over 50 years. The Sportwagen, better known now as the 911, is one of the most enduring shapes in the motor industry.

Cyclists on the rack

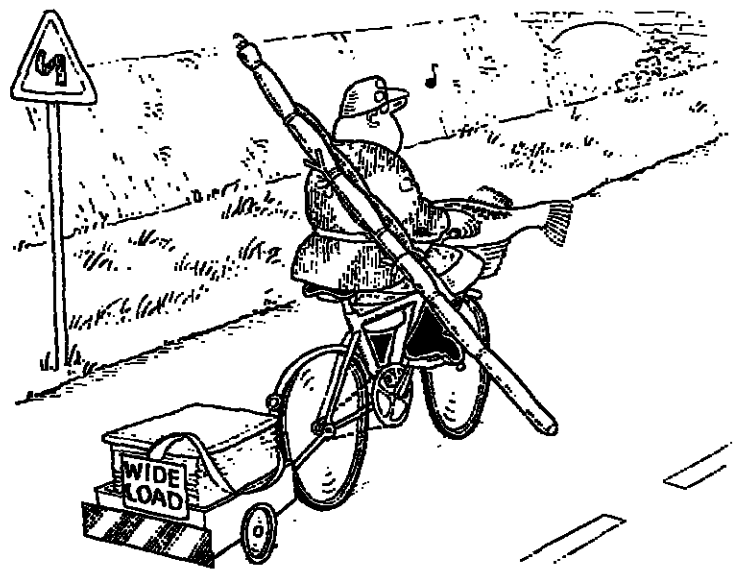
BEFORE you hitch those bikes to the back of the car for the holidays, check they are not being carried illegally. The AA warns that cycle-transporting carriers can not only cause accidents but will result in a fine of £90 or more plus licence points if the case goes to court. Check the load is secure and that number plates and lights are not obscured by dangling wheels.

Vicious cyclists have a point — bicycles are the way forward, but who wants to run the gauntlet of bad drivers?

Two wheels are better than four

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard



London in summer is an underrated pleasure. The numerical pressure of tourists is all but cancelled out by the exodus of students and the closure of the vast political infrastructure, leaving the capital more relaxed than in winter, its charms more readily enjoyed. Humidity? It beats icicles.

But not bicycles. Those who have read the above paragraph after spending Wednesday morning cursing through car windows and gesticulating into rear-view mirrors will be *thinking*: the boy has cracked.

Not a bit of it. A combination of the Tube strike and a demo by cyclists pedalling continuously around Trafalgar Square created chaos on Wednesday, but one gridlock does not a disaster make.

The timing of this two-wheeled folly by members of a group called Reclaim the Streets, who are to cycling what the Militant Tendency used to be to Labour, must be presumed to be deliberate. A group active in transport matters can hardly fail to know that the Underground has been shut down.

Members of Reclaim the Streets turn up around the country in all sorts of guises. They were active at Newbury and Twyford Down, being opposed to bypasses. Last month they sat down on the A41 spur road near Shepherd's Bush. Last year they brought the centre of Greenwich to a standstill, though it doesn't take a bicyle to do that.

So what does Reclaim the Streets want? They want better provision for cyclists in cities. Do I agree with their methods? No. Do I agree with their aims? Yes I do.

Their methods are silly and contradictory. They protest against the pollution caused by cars but jam the roads of central London in rush hour, thus causing more pollution. This is terrible public relations and only obscures the reasoning behind their behaviour.

The chances of the population marching on Downing Street to demand help for cyclists after sweating in a traffic jam behind a bunch of them are remote at best.

Some cyclists are undoubtedly a pain in the neck. Oddly enough, I find them more of a nuisance on small roads than on main ones. Only this week I was stuck for nearly a mile on a country road behind two cyclists riding side by side. They knew I was there but they were damned if they would move.

But car drivers ought to be among the prime supporters of cycling. Instead, too many us treat cyclists as if they were invisible. We drive too close to them. There have been frightening accidents, especially on corners, where drivers have knocked down cyclists by sweeping around the junction too close to the kerb.

The approach seems to be that cyclists have a duty to keep out of the way of other traffic, which would be a laughable proposition if one advanced it in Holland, for example. Unlike Holland, the provision of cycle lanes in our cities is dismal.

There are hundreds of roads in London which could easily accommodate them. The argument that they would be empty much of the time is nonsensical. If it was applied to roads, we would not have the road network we have now. Cycle lanes will surely encourage cycling.

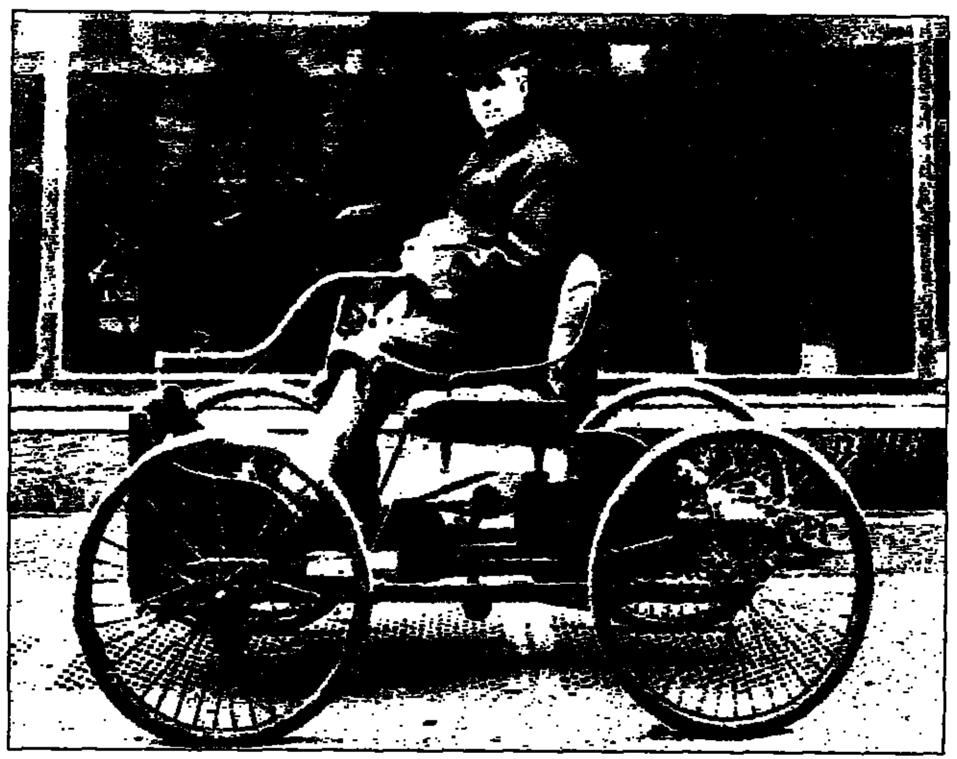
Bus lanes have certainly worked in making more buses run on time and more people travel by bus as a result. There is no reason to think the same would not apply to cycling.

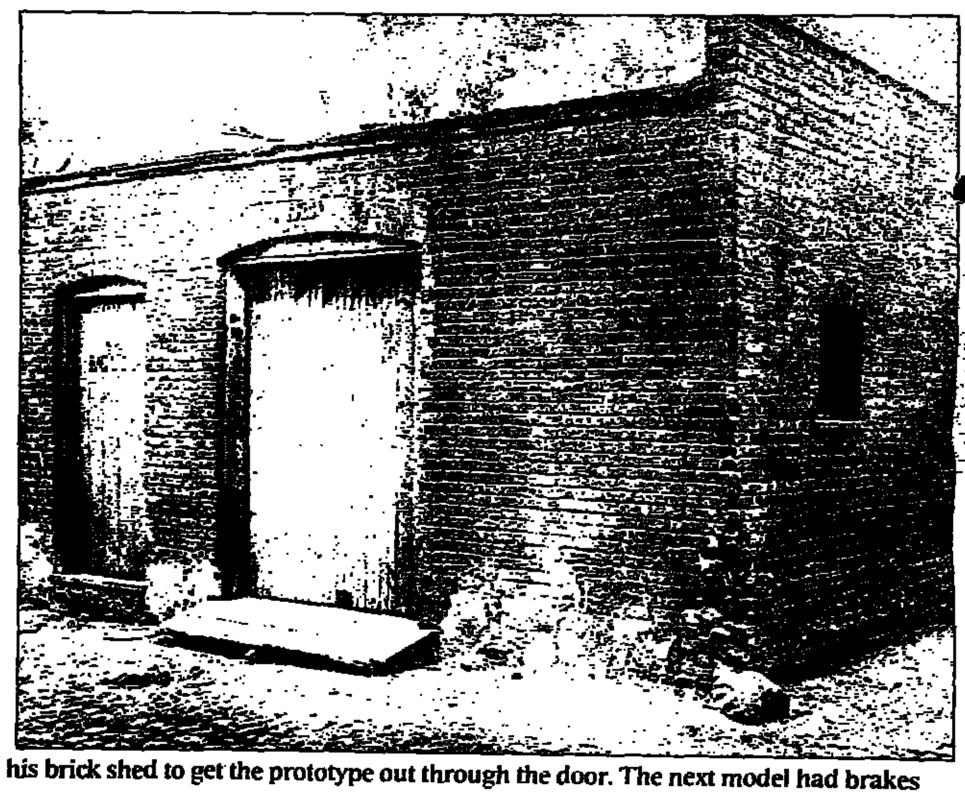
So, am I prepared to lead the way by taking to a bicycle? Um, er, well. There is the dodgy knee to consider and of course I would need a mountain bike with 76 gears, which would cost an arm and a leg.

That can also be the price of riding a bicycle around our cities, so I think I shall stick to four wheels for the time being. But you go ahead by all means. Think of all the space you will be creating for car drivers.

It's 100 years since Henry Ford fired the engine on the first car and started a trend

Putting the Ford in affordable





Henry Ford put wheels on an engine and a leather seat on top — but had to remodel his brick shed to get the prototype out through the door. The next model had brakes

There are only a few badges recognised in every corner of the globe from Detroit to Dar-Es-Salaam, Los Angeles to Liberia. Say Coca-Cola, the BBC or Levi and eyes light up: show the blue oval and everyone knows that it goes on the bonnet of a Ford car.

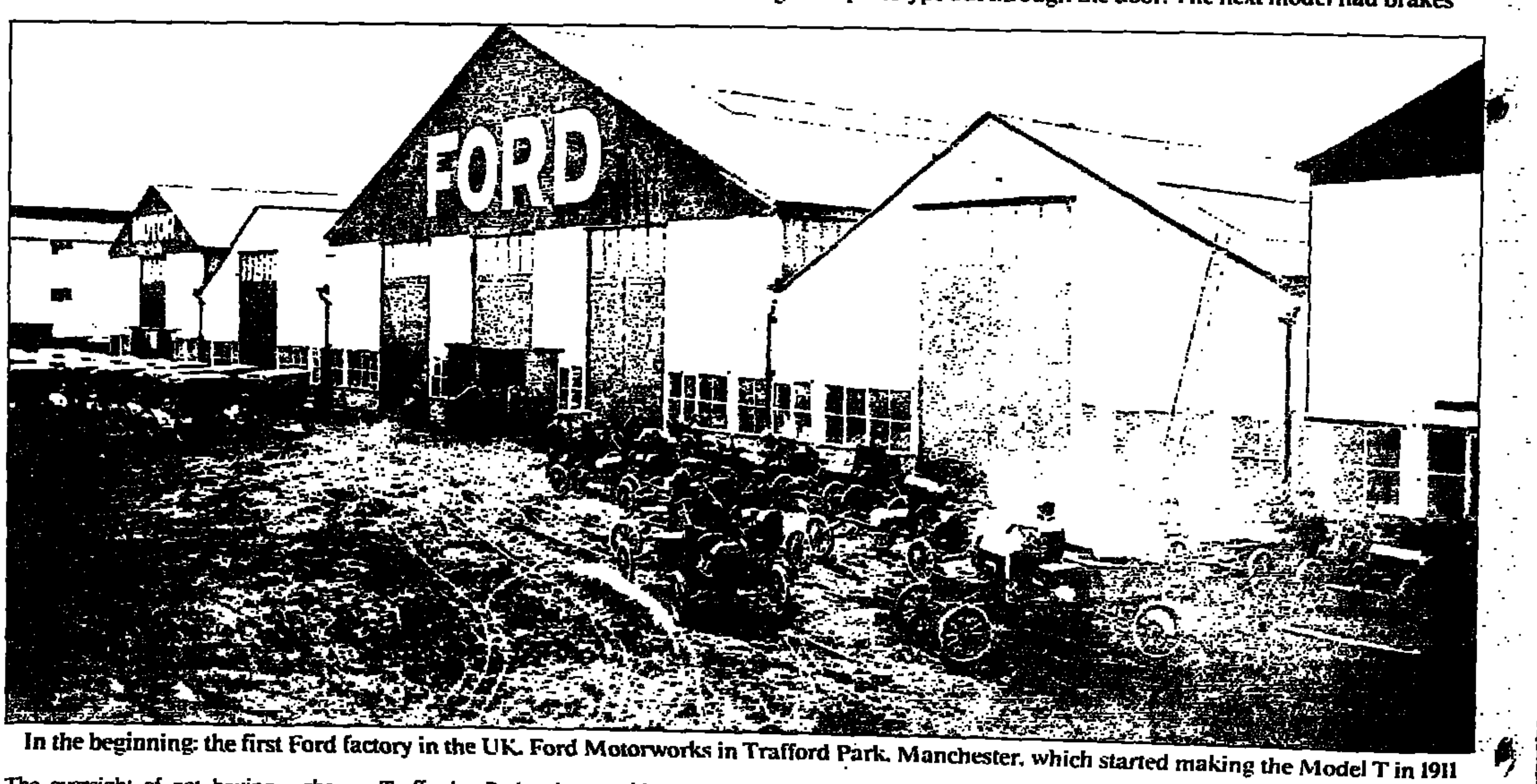
It is 100 years since Henry Ford clattered out of a dreary brick yard in Detroit on his rickety single-cylinder Quadricycle. The machine was little more than a leather bench seat on an engine, supported by a chassis and four wheels... and there were no brakes. Within nine years though, Ford was making enough cars to export to Britain; within 20, he had built a factory in the UK and was well on the way to creating an empire which is a cornerstone of the world motor industry.

Few companies still bear the name of their founder, but Ford has been very much a family business for the best part of the century, only recently turning into a corporate American business (albeit one now run by a Scotsman, Alex Trotman).

Henry was the son of an immigrant Irish farmer who realised that Britain provided an opportunity for growth, and he expanded here soon after the birth of the British industry in 1896. Ford dreamed of some sort of vehicle to take the drudgery out of life on the farm at home in Dearborn, just outside Detroit. He was the boy "with wheels in his head", said his family, a point he proved.

In 1893, he made a simple single-cylinder engine from scrap metal and clamped it to the kitchen sink drainer, leading a wire to the electric light socket for an ignition spark. While his wife dribbled oil into the air intake, Ford spun the flywheel — and the engine started.

He moved into his brick workshop and worked day and night on his Quadricycle — although the great engineer seemed to be a poor at detail. He just finished when he realised that the workshop doorway was too narrow, so he had to hack it out with an axe to get his Quadricycle into the street for its first road test.



In the beginning: the first Ford factory in the UK. Ford Motorworks in Trafford Park, Manchester, which started making the Model T in 1911

The oversight of not having brakes was not deemed a problem because Henry was already planning his next model, and the next and the next for a world full of cars.

In 1899, he gave up a well-paid job at the Edison Illuminating Company to start manufacturing cars full-time. The first, the logically named Model A, was simple but light and strong and sold for just $850; it was an *immediate* success and production took off. Within months, Ford shipped to England, where Percival Perry was waiting to unpack and sell them. In fact, Perry's drive was so great that he built Ford into the biggest name in British motor sales. The first Fords went into showrooms in 1903 and caught the imagination of fledgling British drivers, so much so that Henry decided to show his "universal" car at the London Motor Show in 1908. That car was the Model T, which went on to sell 16 million around the world.

Ford discovered British demand so great that he knew he could build a factory here, and chose Trafford Park in Manchester, which started making the Model T in 1911. Within three years, he was outselling the combined total of the next six big British carmakers. Thirteen years later, Ford expanded again to build a huge site on the marshlands of Essex at Dagenham. Ford of Britain produced a succession of cars which became established among Britain's favourites.

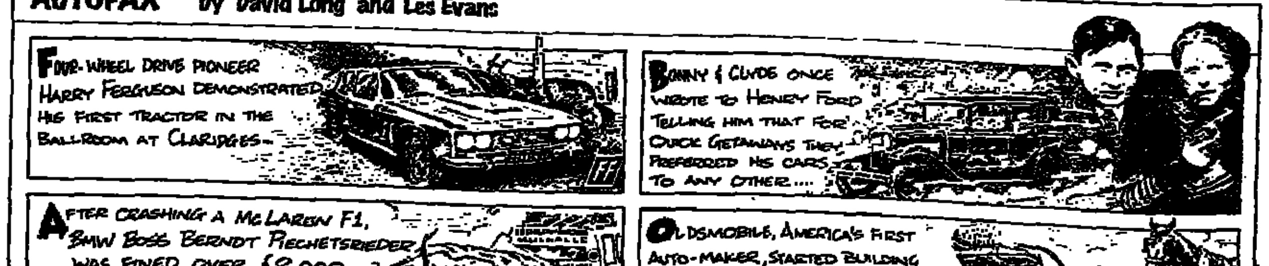
Everything Henry touched seemed to spell success: the famous blue oval was a happy accident, the product of Childe Herold Wills, who devised it only because the limitations of his home printing set would allow little else. Ford was smart enough to have invented the first automated production line as early as 1921 and three years later boasted that a boat-load of iron ore delivered at 8am Monday would be a complete car by 9am Wednesday and in the showroom that noon — from raw material to cash in 33 hours.

There were few flaws or disappointments, although the death of his son, Edsel, in 1943 was devastating. And Henry should have thought twice about asking poetess Marianne Moore to dream up some names: her suggestions? Utopian Turtletop and Bullet Cloisonné. Quite. Fortunately, the old man never took them up.

When Henry died in 1947, Ford was a world business and passed into the safe hands of his grandson, Henry Ford II. In fact, the young Ford probably developed the company further and faster and was responsible, towards the end of his life, for the acquisition of both Jaguar and Aston Martin to add to the empire.

Today, Ford is the second biggest carmaker in the world, spending £300 million a year on research in this country, while factories at Dagenham, Halewood on Merseyside and Southampton turn out around 420,000 vehicles a year, employing nearly 30,000 people in the UK. The Ford empire is vast — and a century away from that spluttering single-cylinder and a crumbling brick yard.

AUTOFAX by **David Long and Les Evans**


FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE PIONEER HARRY FERGUSON DEMONSTRATED HIS FIRST TRACTOR IN THE BALLROOM AT CLARIDGES...
BONNY & CLYDE ONCE WROTE TO HENRY FORD TELLING HIM THAT FOR QUICK GETAWAYS THEY PREFERRED HIS CARS TO ANY OTHER....
AFTER CRASHING A McLAREN F1, BMW BOSS BERNDT PIECHETSRIEDER WAS FINED OVER £8,000 FOR SPEEDING
OLDSMOBILE, AMERICA'S FIRST AUTO-MAKER, STARTED BUILDING CARS BECAUSE RANSOM E. OLDS HATED THE SMELL OF HORSES...

هكذا من الاصل

The boys' toys that Bodie and Doyle raced around in *The Professionals* are back, says **Vaughan Freeman**

DOUG MARKE
B150 YWL

Capris now fetch rock-bottom prices, but their classic status as the archetypal bomber-jacket boy's motor is now becoming appreciated — and rare examples can fetch £10,000

Lads return to the style of Capri

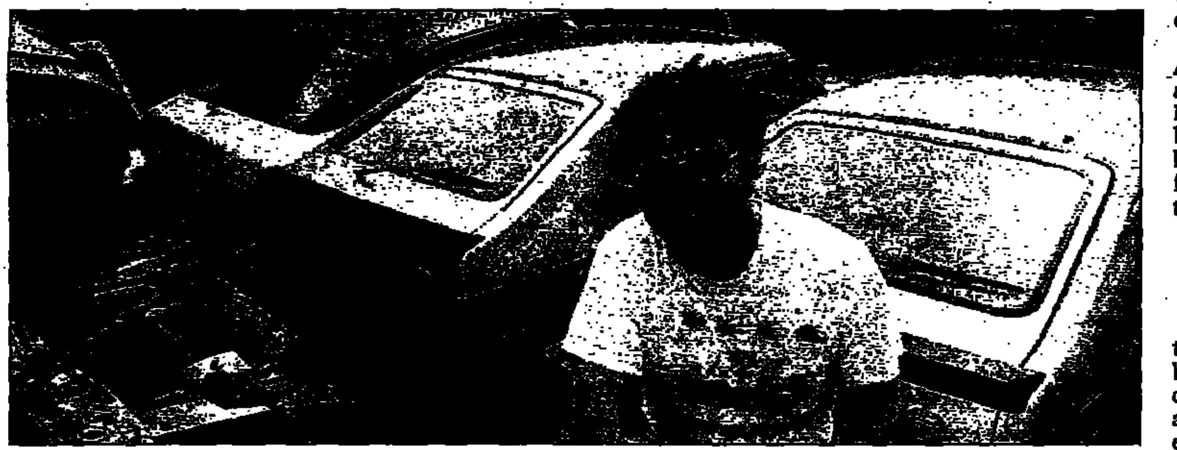
If there was one car which was as much of its time as flares and bomber jackets, it was the Ford Capri. When Bodie and Doyle, stars of *The Professionals* television series, went into action, what else could they drive but Capris?

The Capri was one of Ford's triumphs, the car that put two-door motoring within reach of ordinary mortals. The image was set in celluloid: the sideburned Professionals, agents from the mythical CI5 intelligence agency, using His'n'His matching Capris to screech and handbrake turn their way across the nation's small screens.

For Bodie (alias actor Lewis Collins), there was a silver Capri, while Doyle (Martin Shaw) was seen at the wheel of a matching gold version. The two cars followed each other off the Ford production line and, sweetly, even boasted matching number plates to underline the male bonding.

Now, 13 years after they last starred on screen, the pair of 3-litre cars have been tracked down and renovated to their former glory by Capri fanatic Alan Jarvis and his business partner, Wayne Armstrong. This summer the two cars have joined the motor show trail, to the delight of the tens of thousands of motorists for whom the Capri is still considered the ultimate testosterone machine, a coupé which is unrivalled in being so readily identified and so much a part of national life.

Close scrutiny of old videotapes of *The Professionals* first put Wayne on the trail of the Bodie and Doyle cars — he even called in a private detective to help track them down. Examination of the first tapes revealed an even earlier T-registered Capri, which has also been found and now belongs to the two, though it has yet to be renovated.



Restorer Alan Jarvis at his yard: "There's no in-between with a Capri. People either love or hate them."

The silver car was eventually found in a lock-up garage, covered in old tyres, with one wheel left on, and a car battery on the roof leaking acid which had eaten into the metal. Inside, an engine from a completely different vehicle nestled on the back seat. The gold Capri, meanwhile, was roadworthy — but only just — and had been sprayed white. The two cars still bore the scars of their flirtation with television stardom and stunt drivers, with many of the panels damaged.

But if *The Professionals* Capris are at the pinnacle of the Capri tree, the status of the ordinary, everyday Capri is currently halfway between being a clapped out bargain-basement classic and an aspirant Aston Martin. It is a machine that, for the fraction of the price of an old Jaguar or Rover, can put the lover of older cars at the wheel of something distinctive and special.

This year marks a decade since the last Capris were built — but it is almost 30 years since the Capri, which in its 1.3-litre form was the original sheep in wolf's clothing, was launched in 1968. As the car developed — with 1.6, 2.0, 2.8 and 3.0 litre versions — so its following grew and in its most potent form, the limited edition Tickford Capri capable of 150mph, became one of the first affordable supercars.

What though is the attraction of the Capri in general and *The Professionals* cars in particular? Jarvis, who runs ASJ Capri Specialists in Beeston near Nottingham, says: "The thing with the Capri is that I have never, in 12 years of owning Capris since I bought my first one when I was 18, met anyone who said they were just 'all right'. There is no in-between with a Capri. They are so distinctive that people either love them or hate them. On the pavement, or when driving them down the road, people know immediately that it is a Capri, whether it is a Mark I, II or III.

"As a 2.8-injected or 3-litre they are quite quick even by today's standards and will certainly keep pace with a modern GTi. Now, prices for the Capri are at rock bottom, and they are midway between being a jalopy and a classic."

In Jarvis's yard, wrecked Capris are piled three and four deep, bits of Capri litter the yard patrolled by the statutory two Rottweiler guard dogs. Three grey Capris that look almost roadworthy, await new owners. In the workshop more cars are in various stages of renovation, mechanical upgrading and respraying.

The Capri sold as far afield as America, New Zealand, Australia and throughout Europe as well as the Mediterranean countries, and Jarvis has customers around the world on his mailing list who rely on him to find just the right bit of Capri interior trim or engine part.

Capris are a cheap option in the world of classic cars. Jarvis estimates that it has cost around £20,000 so far to renovate the two cars which belonged to *The Professionals* to near concours condition but that now they are probably worth closer to £25,000 each. It is, admits Jarvis, only the showbusiness history of the two cars that make them worth so much.

The standard and somewhat less glamorous 1.6 and 2.0-litre cars sell for between £1,000 to £1,500, depending on their condition. The 3.0-litre GXL cars sell for £2,500 to £3,500. Rarer examples, such as the limited edition RS3100 can fetch between £5,000 and £7,000, but Capri nuts must be prepared to spend up to £10,000 for one of the very rare Tickford cars and around £5,000 for one of the Brooklands 2.8-litre versions which were the last 1,000 or so Capris to be built.

Then and only then will the would-be Professional be ready for the suitably flared trousers and a haircut to make Vidal Sassoon faint.

STEERING COLUMN

The classical music lover who hates Allegros

Martin Shaw thinks slow drivers plot against him, says **Jennai Cox**

Shaw hated his hard image

Describing it as "wooden and boring" Martin Shaw, alias Ray Doyle from the 1970s hit series *The Professionals*, halted attempts eight years ago to repeat the show that launched his career. Shaw said he had disliked being typecast as a hard-man. He returned in various guises to the stage, only reappearing on television in 1993 to play Chief Constable Alan Cade in *The Chief*. He is starring as Lord Goring in *An Ideal Husband* on Broadway and returns to the UK in October.

How did you first learn to drive?

My dad used to let me drive whenever we were off public roads, so I knew the basics from about 12 onwards. When I had lessons for the test I found I only needed six and passed first time, but I was very nervous. At one point, the examiner asked: "Mr Shaw, what is the speed limit here?" "Er, 30," I said. "Yes," he said. "That means you can actually reach that speed." I had been driving at about 18mph.

What was your first car?

A Renault 4, and I loved it. It had a strange three-speed gearbox, and only 600cc, but I covered many miles in it, and it taught me a lot. If you can drive one of those skilfully, you can drive anything.

What car do you drive now?

I have a Land Rover Discovery and a Toyota Celica. I live in the country, and the Discovery is vital for the kind of driving and hauling I do. The Celica is ideal for nipping back and forth to London.

Do you enjoy driving?

Yes, I enjoy driving a lot — when I'm able to. What we do around our cities is not driving, it is queueing. Fortunately living in Norfolk, I get to actually drive more than I did when I lived in London.

What is your dream car?

I love the TVR Griffith. It captures brilliantly the classic English look while using the best of modern development — it sounds sexy too. I want one!

What is your most hated car?

The maroon Allegro that is always at the front of a long line of cursing, fractious drivers, doing 30 per cent less than the speed limit.

What is your worst habit in the car?

Sitting behind the maroon Allegro and wishing I had a divine mechanical hand to lift it off the road. Permanently.

What infuriates you about other drivers?

The way they always know where I am going, and when, so they can drive their Allegros very slowly in front of me.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

I don't think it's *that* unusual, do you?

Have you ever had any points on your licence?

Yes, I got nabbed by one of those cameras at roadworks on the M11 at 2am.

What do you listen to on your car radio while driving?

Radio 4 or classical music on the disc player. I love to sing along with *Messiah* and belt out the harmonies when no one else can hear me.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport what is the first thing you would do?

Make it illegal to drink at all when driving.

What is your most hated car advertisement?

The staggeringly pretentious advert for tyres with fat, silver-painted children, and ball-bearings on the road — I had suffered it at least six times before I knew what it was advertising and I still don't know what brand it was.

THE FIRST FIESTA...

Paul Harbold in his cheap, reliable 75bhp Fiesta Supersport

Happy 20 years since it hatched

You might expect to find Paul Harbold in the latest hot hatch, but he is a devotee of something slightly more humble: the original Ford Fiesta, *writes Kevin Eason*.

Millions of people have driven Fiestas since the car was launched 20 years ago this month, the latest of the Dagenham Dustbins which have belied their nickname to become among the most sought-after cars on the road.

Ford had made a million Fiestas by 1979 and won a Design Council award. To date, the company's huge Fiesta factory at Essex has made more than two million, and the car has been the best-selling supermini in Britain for almost all of its two decades.

Paul travelled the classic route to Fiesta ownership, learning to drive in one and becoming hooked on its simplicity of layout and ease of driving. He acquired the family MkI as a hand-me-down which was bought from new. After that he decided that he didn't particularly want anything else, just more Fiestas. So he bought another MkI, this time a Fiesta Supersport, in reality little more than a standard car but with the 75bhp Kent engine, flared wheel arches and side stripes.

"They are simple cars and easy to look after," he says. "There are so many of them around second-hand because they are reliable and cheap."

In fact, more than 360,000 used Fiestas are still on the road, including many of those original Dagenham cars still tootling around; still the starter car and daily transport for thousands.

AND THE LATEST

Front seats are a spacious delight. Shame about the rear cabin

Much better car, but not perfection

I was delighted with my little red A-registration Ford Fiesta, *writes Linda Dawe*. I passed my driving test in it and took the car for its first MoT the next day. It passed too.

For years I would not let a critical thought enter my mind as it got me from A to B reliably and safely through the country lanes where I live. As we both got older, however, I realised that its suspension was not so much lousy as non-existent. I also discovered that the clutches on other cars were not so sudden — neither were the brakes so slow to react.

I wondered if Ford would ever make a Fiesta which was comfortable and easy to drive. Now they have tried and very nearly succeeded. The new Fiesta, admittedly a top-of-the-range four-door Ghia 1.4i, cushions the bumps nicely, has wonderful power steering, effective ABS brakes, electric wing mirrors to allow easy parking and, a real boon this summer, air conditioning. The fake walnut panelling is in rather more questionable taste.

The car has far more space in the front seats than seems possible from its rounded and cosy-looking external dimensions but the back is a disaster area, designed for the legless.

The back seats do not fold down flat enough to leave a sensible loading area. Their headrests obscure both rear corners when reversing and loom large in the driver's mirror on the road. Friends under 5ft 3in tall have also discovered that when they fling open the hatchback they need to stand on a stool to bring it down

FORD'S POPS

CARS, like pop music, mark different stages in all our lives — and the betting is that at least one of those markers was a Ford.

THE MODEL T was a best-seller here when Marie Lloyd warbled away before the First World War.

THE MODEL Y, Britain's first £100 car, which brought motoring to ordinary people, was being developed by Henry's team in 1935 as Jack Buchanan crooned.

CONSULS, Zephyrs and Zodiacs first appeared by 1950, when Frank Sinatra was breaking millions of female British hearts; and **POPULARS** were the nation's daily transport.

NEW ZEPHYRS and Zodiacs appeared along with Elvis: US-style fins matched the King's quiff.

THE ANGLIA appeared with raked rear and droop nose, transforming small-car design.

THE CORTINA launched in 1962, was probably Ford's most successful mid-range model.

THE TRANSIT, the van that shifted a thousand drum kits and became a legend in its own right, was launched in 1965 in time for the explosion of British pop.

THE CAPRI, the first affordable coupé, was launched with British bestseller, the Escort, in 1968 as the Beatles went psychedelic.

THE FIESTA first pogoed at the hands of learner-drivers while the Sex Pistols shocked the pops.

THE SIERRA created its own shock in 1982 with its jelly-mould design: new, but hardly romantic.

THE MONDEO, Ford's first world car, and the Galaxy people-mover are here in the age of Take That, Blur and Oasis.

THE KA, Ford's revolutionary mini, launches next year. But what will we be listening to?

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هكذا من الاجانب

Leslie Thomas admits that after forty years of driving misadventures, he still doesn't know how cars work

Up to my axles in sand, and other goofs

When I went for my driving test 40 years ago, it was necessary for two reasons that I passed first time: I could *not afford* further lessons, and I was seriously frightened of my driving instructor, a vicious Belgian who would shout in my face, pound his fists on the dashboard and, even more unnervingly, stamp on his brake pedal. I thought it would only be a matter of time before he hit me.

With this threat lurking, I did pass the test. So overjoyed was I that I gave the examiner the news that my first child had also been born that morning and, had it not been a girl, I would have named it after him. Morosely he replied: "I don't reckon you would. My first name's Halibut."

Forty years on and I am ashamed to admit, the only thing I know about a car is how to drive it. Once I had a tyre burst on the motorway and the wheel was obligingly changed by the crew of a police car. It happened again years later at the start of the M3: from a layby I telephoned the RAC. It took several hours for them to find me, but the time did not go unused. It was a hot June day and I clambered over a fence into deeply green countryside, with a dawdling river and buttercups up to my knees. The experience found fruit in my novel *The Adventures of Goodnight and Loving* where a stressed and distressed lawyer escapes from the motorway into a lush landscape and sets off to journey gamely around the world.

The workings of the internal combustion engine and its surroundings continue to escape me. After a test drive in a German sports car, I made the salesman blanch by enquiring if the engine was at the back or the front. On another occasion, with a car full of anxious dogs, I enlisted a roving boy scout patrol to assist me with a flat tyre, and the smallest lad demonstrated how to loosen the wheel nuts by simply jumping on the wrench, something which had never occurred to me.

Once, I was surveying the wreckage of my vehicle after a collision when my eye lit on a smart white sports job, a soft-top Sunbeam Alpine, in a showroom window while I was waiting for the police to arrive. I purchased the car while the debris of the last one was being gathered up from the road. You had to be agile to drive that Alpine: to clip the hood you had to lie back and use the soles of your feet.

My overseas motoring record is not good. There were so many miscalculations that my children dubbed our holidays "Thomas's Tours" and set out not with anticipation but with a collective dubious sigh. I once sank my *Hillman Minx* in quicksand near Le Touquet. It went down to the axles, bogged directly in front of the door of a caravan containing a French family. They could not open the door and only the smallest of the children could escape through the window.

MARK THOMAS

Leslie and Diana Thomas with their brace of Mercedes: a 350SL convertible and 230E saloon. The latter, bought from the woman who makes their curtains, still purrs after ten years and 135,000 miles

At the end of another vacation in France, I was late at Narbonne, the departure point for the *Auto-Couchette*. Having rushed the family aboard the passenger section, I drove like mad to the loading yard only to find that they were closing the gate. Officials and Gendarmes waved their arms and blew their whistles but nothing was going to stop me. Like James Bond, I roared through the lot and triumphantly clattered up onto the rail wagon.

I sat there, defiant ... British. An understated inspector appeared and inquired politely as to my destination: "Boulogne," I said intransigently. He puffed out his cheeks as only the French can. "Monsieur," he sighed with a certain amount of happiness, "this train is going to Milan."

The first day I ever drove a car in America, 30 years ago, it had, what was for me, a novelty — power brakes. The first time I applied them a large, amiable and heavily pregnant woman who was travelling in the back did a somersault and ended alongside me with her backside uppermost. That night, I drove that unaccustomed vehicle 200 miles from New York to Boston in a huge rainstorm with the woman, her husband and children as passengers. Not a word was said all the way.

I am not proud of my incompetence. I once drove a grand, sporty Peugeot Cabriolet, its only drawback, so I believed, was the lack of an interior light. There were times, in windy Wales or the sleet-lashed northern moors, when I wondered if the designer really meant me to crouch in front of the headlamps to read the map. On the day I sold it, after seven years, I was giving it a final clean when I located a switch in the glove compartment ...

Some mishaps have occurred when I have been at an innocent distance. One Christmas Eve the distraught owner of a garage where my Mazda RX-7 was being serviced telephoned to say his premises had burnt down and my lovely red car was a pile of ashes. "I'll get you another, I promise," he said tearfully. He did get me another and, when his showroom had been rebuilt, I performed the opening ceremony and told everyone he had kept his word. He sold seven cars that day and went on to win Dealer of the Year.

THOMAS'S TOP MOTORS

LESLIE Thomas, author of the best-selling novel, *The Virgin Soldiers*, has bounced from the sensible to the exotic each time he has gone out to buy a car, according to his record presented to *Car 96*.

SUNBEAM built the first British-built grand prix winner in 1923. The Rootes Group revived the name and made the lovely Alpine.

HILLMAN'S Minx — another Rootes car — was a long-running and successful mid-range family car, in contrast his next model.

MAZDA'S two-seat RX-7, is the only car to use the controversial Wankel-designed Rotary engine.

THE MERCEDES 230E is as safe as houses.

THE 350SL is exotica, from a line which reached heights in 1954 with the Gullwing 300SL and continues today with the SL series.

I bought my first Mercedes (a white 230E saloon) through a dealer who bought it from the lady who makes our curtains. It was handy seeing her address in the logbook because my wife, Diana, had lost it and we needed some more curtains. That was ten years ago, and 135,000 miles later the car still purrs like a sewing machine.

Diana recently suggested that we really ought to buy a new car, even if we kept the old one. So we bought a 15-year-old Mercedes as well, a beauty: a thistle-green, 350SL convertible which we spotted sitting at a country garage. It had done 40,000 miles and we put a few more on the clock by driving it through Spain last autumn.

Our old Mercedes has been lovingly tended by Stanley Beeton who, after 70 years in the garage business, retired last month. He is a dignified 84-year-old who keeps geese and Soay sheep from the Orkneys beside the Wiltshire Avon.

"The first car I ever drove was a Studebaker Flanders," Mr Beeton recalls mistily, "made for American officers in the First World War. And then there was a Lagonda and the Darraq. Oh, what a beautiful motor, with a fabric body and silk linings to the doors. They closed like a whisper. We ran a chauffeur-hire and I was the chauffeur. One day I drove Lloyd George."

Lloyd George actually *did* know his father, who arrived in Salisbury from London in the early 1920s. Apart from opening one of the first garages in Wiltshire he sang in the Cathedral Choir. During a long sermon, he had been known to produce a motor part from under his cassock and proceed to dismantle and clean it, always having reassembled it by the time the preacher left the pulpit.

Will Damon price himself out of Williams as the teams reshuffle?

Threat to Hill as drivers vie for greed position

PALMER'S KNOWLEDGE

This time last year Damon Hill went in to the Hungarian Grand Prix an anxious man — and returned having signed the biggest deal of his life — a contract with Williams worth an estimated £3 million.

At the time, Hill was running second to Schumacher in the world championship. Now he is leading comfortably, so it is ironic that he is unlikely to be securing his future in the same way this weekend.

The game of musical chairs between drivers is great fun for most Formula One enthusiasts: who will end up going where and for how much?

Had Michael Schumacher's financial demands been more modest, he would have driven for Williams this year, with the certain reward of a third championship. But I cannot see him leaving Ferrari this year with the team bound to improve. Meanwhile, Irvine, a stoic support act, is already signed up for another year.

Early season dissatisfaction with the Alesi-Berger partnership at Benetton is evolving into respect. The same can be said of McLaren where the Mercedes engine is impressing. Mika Hakkinen is probably second to Schumacher for pace, outqualifying David Coulthard, who was faster than Hill in qualifying in the second half of 1995. What Coulthard loses on grid position, he frequently more than makes up for with his electrifying starts. Hakkinen's speed with Coulthard's intelligence is a combination I would not want to change.

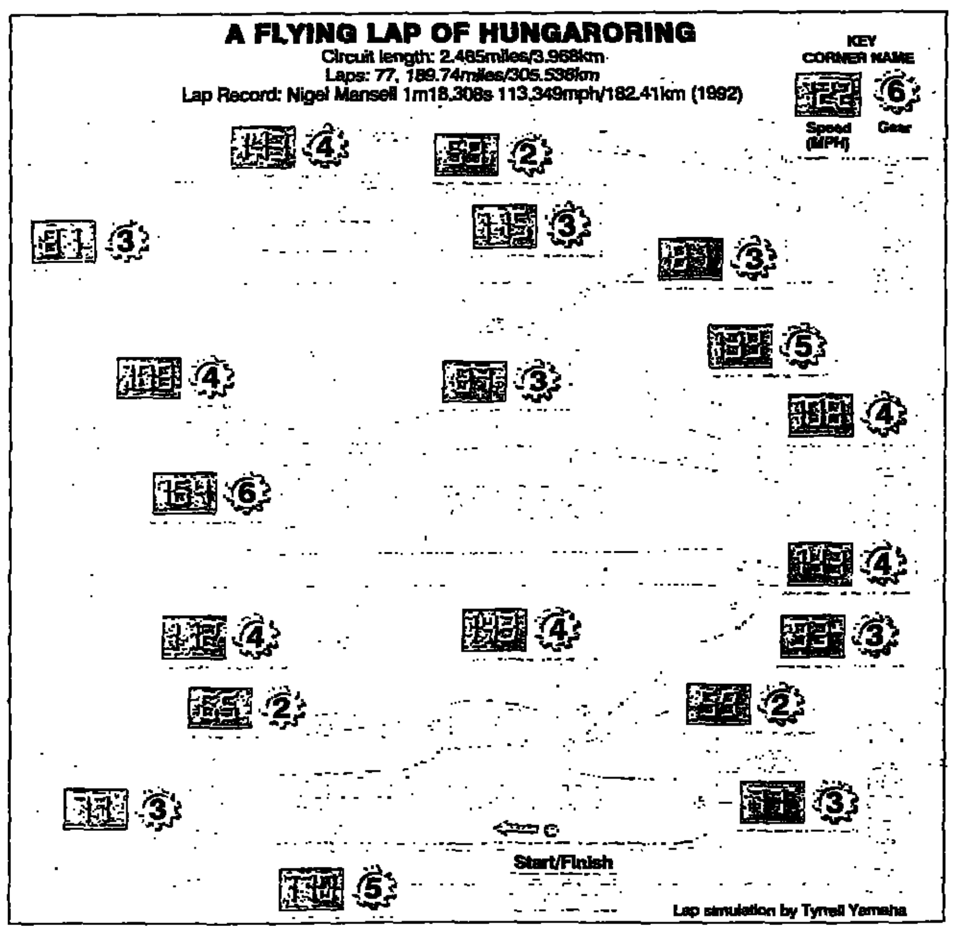
Jordan, a match for McLaren, has slipped even though Peugeot's engine is among the quickest. Rubens Barrichello is a gifted and fast driver but lacks commitment and aggression, and maybe he has been at Jordan too long. Martin Brundle is slower but more experienced and technically capable. My guess is that this will not be enough to keep him at Jordan.

That takes care of all the top teams ... except for Williams. Jacques Villeneuve has next year guaranteed, but Damon? Hill's agent is reputedly demanding a salary hike to £8 million — enough to pay even the best Olympic athlete for ten years. If he chases this too hard he might price Damon out of a drive — as Mansell, as champion, was in 1993.

Teams must compare performance with investment in different departments: every £1 million invested in aerodynamics, for example, might yield an extra tenth of a second — so an £8 million driver should be half a second faster than a £3 million driver to be worth the money. Williams — rightly — consider the technical option to be better.

I have a hunch we might see Heinz-Harald Frentzen favoured. Hill has driven some blindingly fast qualifying laps, made very few mistakes and put in some fast race performances. A question mark remains though over his ability in a dogfight. Frentzen was reckoned to be as quick as Schumacher in the Mercedes sportscar team, and last year at Sauber outclassed Bouillon, who as Williams test driver was said to be as quick as Hill.

So what would happen to Damon if he parted company with Williams? Benetton could benefit if Berger retires or his option is not taken up, or Peugeot might choose to bankroll Hill to secure a world championship for Jordan.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TOP BUCKS

Damon Hill, on £3 million is in division two of sports earners, compared with US stars.

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Michael Schumacher (motor racing): £27 million

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- *Colin Ross Jones of Chester, won the test drive competition of July 27.*

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THE TIMES F1

On the eve of the Hungarian Grand Prix in Budapest we have a clear leader at the top of our leaderboard in the race for our £10,000 jackpot. Chris Dare from East Grinstead heads the table on 5,696 points after his team's performance at Hockenheim. Below we print the top five positions after the 10 grand prix races in our competition. Remember, the Australian Grand Prix does not count in our game.

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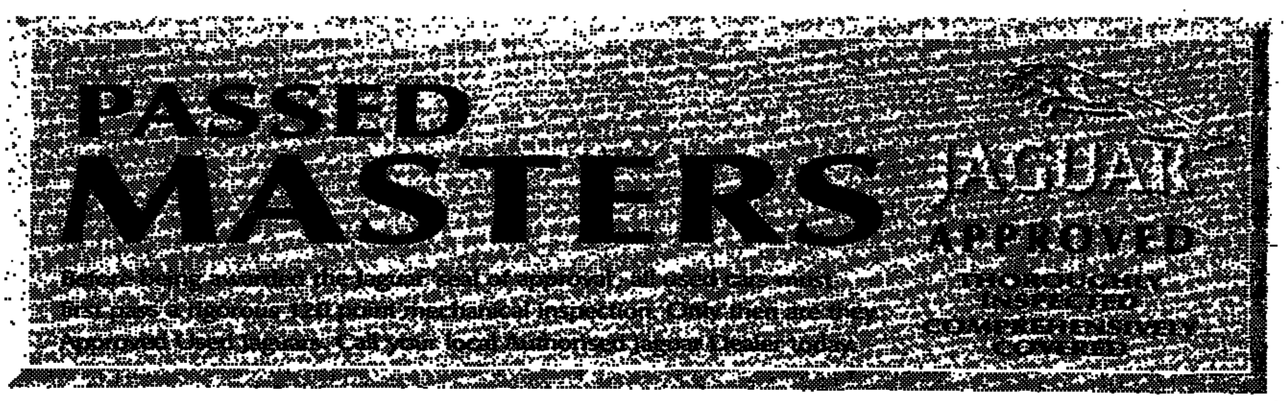

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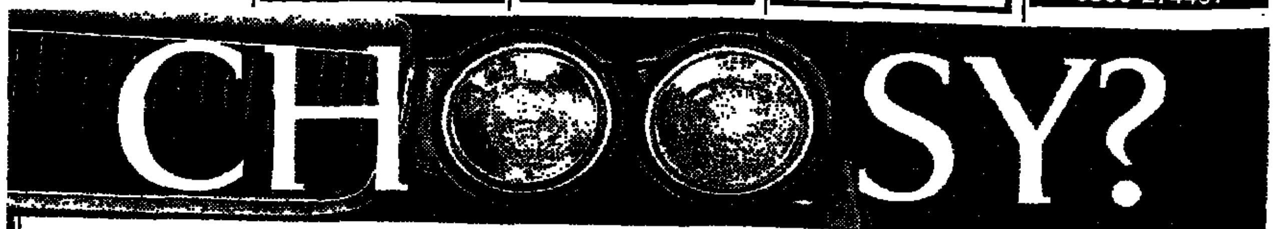

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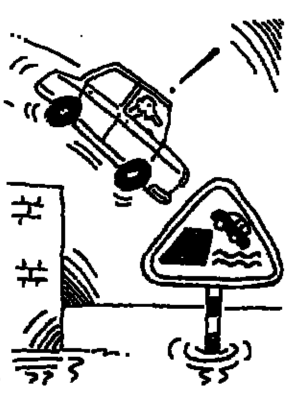


LET'S INVADE SOMEWHERE ELSE— I CAN'T FIND A PARKING SPACE
Haldane

Poor driving renders anti-lock brakes ineffective, report **Kevin Eason** and **Hugh Hunston**

Gadgets to protect us from ourselves

Engineers have discovered a fatal flaw in what is supposed to be one of the biggest safety innovations of the past decade.

Unfortunately, the flaw is the driver, wasting equipment that can be the difference between life and death. The Highway Loss Data Institute in America discovered that cars equipped with anti-lock brakes — designed to prevent drivers locking their wheels under heavy braking and losing control — were involved in just as many accidents as those without.

According to Lucas, Britain's second biggest components maker, driver brain-fade rather than brake fade seems to be the problem.

The company's engineers carried out a series of tests on 70 "average" UK motorists, brought to the test track straight from the street to drive cars equipped with anti-locks (ABS) to discover whether they could translate the technology into safer driving.

Unfortunately, they performed with "devastatingly disappointing results", says Jack Fryer, Lucas's strategic planning director: "We threw hazards in front of them. Only four out of the 70 managed to lock up all four wheels, 25 froze and did virtually nothing and ended up knocking down dummy children. Obviously, having ABS should help save lives — but there is no substitute for driver ability and training."

Manufacturers of ABS systems have become so concerned in America that they have launched a public education campaign, using advertising and demonstrations to help motorists understand how their brakes work.

However, help could be at hand from technology. Lucas is working on a device which helps the driver apply the brakes more rapidly and, crucially, with enough force to prevent collisions and accidents. Called EAS (Electronic Actuation System), it uses an electronically-controlled booster which exploits the full stopping power of ABS.

Lucas researchers discovered than many motorists instinctively back off after slamming on the brakes when they feel the reaction from the anti-lock system. Motorists seem unnerved by the brake pedal's kick-back and juddering that characterises most ABS systems. As a result, around 70 per cent of drivers do not use the full potential of their anti-lock brakes.

EAS, which will be on Mercedes cars from this autumn, can reduce stopping distances by a third, or five car lengths, during an emergency stop from 70mph. It can also operate as a hill-hold device, keeping the vehicle in place after stopping on a hill and releasing the brakes when it pulls away, a welcome solution for motorists confused by the co-ordination of handbrake and throttle.

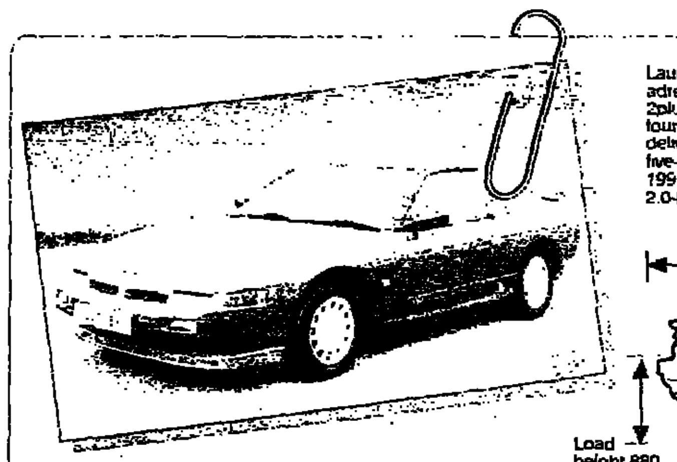
This case of technology being employed to aid technology is only the start, for carmakers are pursuing the goal of ultimately safe cars and are looking for the equipment that can help.

A clutch of component manufacturers — led by Lucas and Bosch — are working on new cruise controls and "drive-by-wire" systems that eliminate mechanical systems in favour of electronics. Mercedes is already fitting a vehicle dynamic control system, which combines anti-lock brakes and traction control to keep cars on the road. If a skid or spin threatens, the car's central nervous system senses the impending danger and applies brakes on the appropriate wheel.

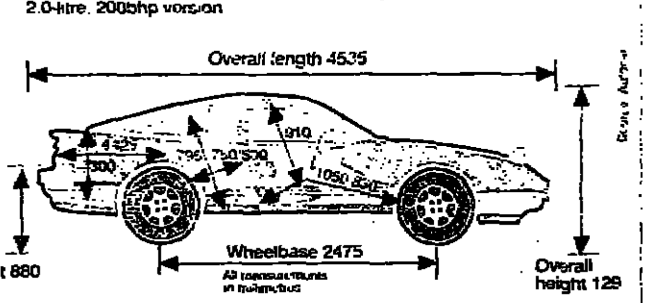
Cruise controls will be next for attention, the best will be set up to prevent drivers hitting the car in front on the motorway. The equipment will be as simple as current cruise controls, employed with the flick of a switch. Electronic throttles are also now common on luxury models, while Rover has entrusted the power-steering assistance on its mid-engined MGF to electronics, rather than hydraulics.

If you can accelerate and steer by wire, why not brake by wire? Leading braking companies are working on this, but it is expected that intermediate electro-hydraulic systems, with the reassurance of traditional hydraulic fluid pumping through the braking system, will still be be on our cars at the turn of the century.

USED CAR BRIEF



Launched in 1989, the 200SX raised eyebrows, heartbeats and adrenalin levels in equal measure. A rear-wheel-drive coupe with 2plus2 seating, the 200SX has a steel body and front-mounted, four-cylinder, 16-valve 1.8-litre engine helped by a turbo-charger to deliver 167bhp and a top speed of 140mph. The car came with five-speed manual or four-speed auto. Anti-lock brakes standard from 1991 but the car was superseded in 1994 by the more powerful 2.0-litre, 200bhp version



GOOD NEWS: Extraordinary performance for the price in a car that uses the traditional rear-wheel drive layout, which admirers of classic sportscars favour. Handling and ride are good even if power steering gives an anaesthetised feel.

BAD NEWS Supposedly a four-seater, passengers in the back are ill-catered for and if you like plastic trim you'll love the 200SX. Despite having only four-cylinders, the 200SX can become a regular visitor to the petrol pumps if driven hard.

SAFETY: The 200SX was launched with disc brakes as standard and anti-lock brakes as an option with ABS standard from 1991. The car does not feature in the Department of Transport guide to safety.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT): clutch assembly £185; full exhaust £320; catalytic converter £400; rear damper £125; alternator £215; tyre £80 to £100.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay £4,675 for a 1989 G-reg 200SX, £7,000 for a 1991 J-reg, £8,000 for a 1992 J-reg automatic, £9,000 for a 1993 K-reg, £11,000 for a 1994 L-reg and £10,250 for a 1993 K-reg 200SX automatic.

LOOK FOR: 1993 cars which have more luxury, loaded with goodies including leather seats, air-conditioning and a CD player as Nissan tried to tempt buyers to get rid of stock before the new 200SX arrived in 1994.

AVOID non-catalysed and therefore less environmentally-friendly pre-1992 cars, although they will get you from a standing start to 60mph in under seven seconds and have more performance than later versions.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800-444777) on a 1993 K-reg 200SX costs a 55-year old professional living in Winchester with full no claims bonus, £310-a-year fully comprehensive, a similar female £292. A 22-year old male, with one year no claims living in south London, pays £2,490, a similar female £2,051.

OVERALL: With a pound-per-mph rating of £121 based on the price new of around £17,000 when it was launched, a new 200SX offered the most extraordinary value for money as a performance car. Used, it is no less impressive. For those who want a budget-priced sports car with near supercar performance and Japanese reliability, a used 200SX is hard to beat.

M-Reg cars from £15,000 to £25,000

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Subaru Legacy 2.0 4-cam estate	15695	15395	-1.91
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BMW 325i auto	17550	17350	-1.14
Honda Prelude 2.3 4ws	15095	14650	-2.95
Ford Granada Scorpio 2.9 V6	16495	16150	-2.09
Vauxhall Omega 3.0 V6 Elite	17950	17550	-2.23
Nissan Patrol GR SGX diesel	18795	18295	-2.66
Mitsubishi Sigma 3.0 V6 auto	15895	15395	-3.15
Mercedes-Benz C180 Classic auto	17350	17250	-0.58
Audi 100 2.8E quattro	16850	16650	-1.19
BMW 320i auto	15950	15795	-0.99
BMW 525i auto	19150	18895	-1.33
Honda Legend auto	22750	22250	-2.20
Isuzu Trooper 3.2i	15150	15150	0.00
Land Rover Discovery 300TDi 3-door	15850	15695	-0.98
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Jaguar XJ6 3.2 manual	23000	23000	0.00
Renault Espace 2.0RT estate	14850	14795	-1.68
Renault Safrane 3.0RXE V6 auto	15395	15195	-1.30
Rover Sterling auto	15295	14695	-3.92
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Toyota Camry 3.0GX V6 auto	15850	15695	-0.98
Toyota Landcruiser II turbo-diesel 3-dr	15095	14650	-2.95
Vauxhall Omega 2.5i CDX V6	15850	15550	-1.89
Volkswagen Corrado	17450	17595	0.83
Volkswagen Golf 2.8 VR6	16095	15750	-2.14
Volvo 940 GLE turbo-diesel	17095	16950	-0.85
Audi 80 2.6E estate	14695	14650	-0.31
BMW 520i Touring auto	17995	17095	-1.11
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Honda Accord 2.3iSR auto	14750	14350	-2.71
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Jeep Cherokee 4.0LT auto	18650	18550	-0.54
Mercedes-Benz C200 Elegance	19695	19595	-0.51
Mercedes-Benz C250D Elegance auto	21250	21250	0.00
Alfa Romeo 3.0 Super Lusso auto	16995	16750	-1.44
Audi A6 2.6	16795	16750	-0.27

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Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices. HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on M-reg low mileage cars. Figures supplied by **CAP Motor Research.**

ROVER is breaking records for worldwide sales. The company sold 238,154 vehicles in the first six months of the year, a 6.5 per cent improvement on last year's half-way tally.

Most of the growth has come from new regions — North America, South-East Asia, Japan, Australia and South Africa — which took 25 per cent of all sales, around 50,400 vehicles. Land Rover was a driving force, with sales up to 59,546, an increase of 12.5 per cent over the first half of last year.

Growing exports are part of the restructuring of Rover, a company which once depended almost entirely on domestic sales. So far this year, 53 per cent of sales went overseas while the home-market share continued to drop.

Nevertheless, Rover has been capturing prestigious customers: British Airways has ordered Rover 800 limousines to ferry VIP passengers between Heathrow terminals while the Bank of England has also taken 800s for executive chauffeur fleet.

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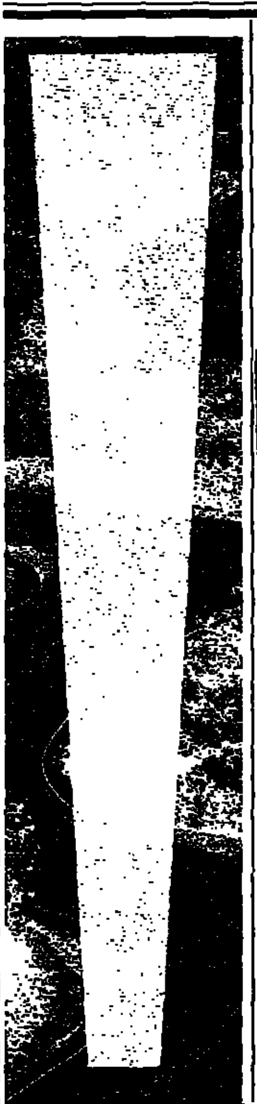

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96N S320 5spd 'A' (Latest Spec) Met, Ltr, Climate, 'Superb'	2T	£51,500	94M E300DT 'A' Met, Air Con, Rear child seats, 8 holes	30T	£27,850
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95N S500 Coupe Met, Alloys, Full Spec	5T	£75,000	95M C36 Met, Ltr, EFSx2, Air Con, ++	24T	£41,000
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91J 500SL B.black/mush hide, air	£21,995
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94M C200 Eleg Auto Azurite	22T	£21,995	94M E220 Auto Nautic	15T	£21,995
95N C200 Eleg Auto White	8T	£22,995	95M E220 Auto Black	18T	£22,995
95N C280 Eleg Auto Silver	10T	£23,995	95N E220T Auto White	19T	£28,995
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95 M C180 Classic Imp.Red, Auto, FEW, ESR, R/C	7T	£18,950
96 N C200 Elegance B.Silver, Auto, EW, OTG, ESR	12T	£24,450
96 N C220 Elegance Green Blk, Auto, A/C, EW	7T	£28,950
95 N C230 Sport Blue/Black Leather, A/C, ESR, EW, R/C	9T	£36,950
95 N C280 Sport B.Silver, Auto, Lthr, EW, ESR, FAR	6T	£37,950
95 N E200 Elegance Ruby Red, Auto, EW, 10HA, R/C	18T	£27,950
95 N E300D Elegance Blue Black, Auto, ESR, 10HA	16T	£31,950
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96 N C280 Esprit Green Blk/Green Cth, Auto, EW, ES	11T	£22,950
95 N C200 Elegance Azurite/Grey Cth, Auto, EW, ES	9T	£22,950
95 N C200 Sport Tourmaline/Blk Cth, Auto, AW, EW, ES	10T	£24,250
95 M E220 (124) Red/Mushroom Cth, Auto, EW, ES	10T	£21,750
94 M E280 Saloon (124) White/Blue Cth, Auto, AW, A/C	21T	£28,250
94 M E320 Coupe B Blk/Mushroom Lthr, Auto, A/C, AW	16T	£36,950
93 L 500SEL B.Black/Cream Lthr, AW, Anti-Theft, CD	39T	£49,950
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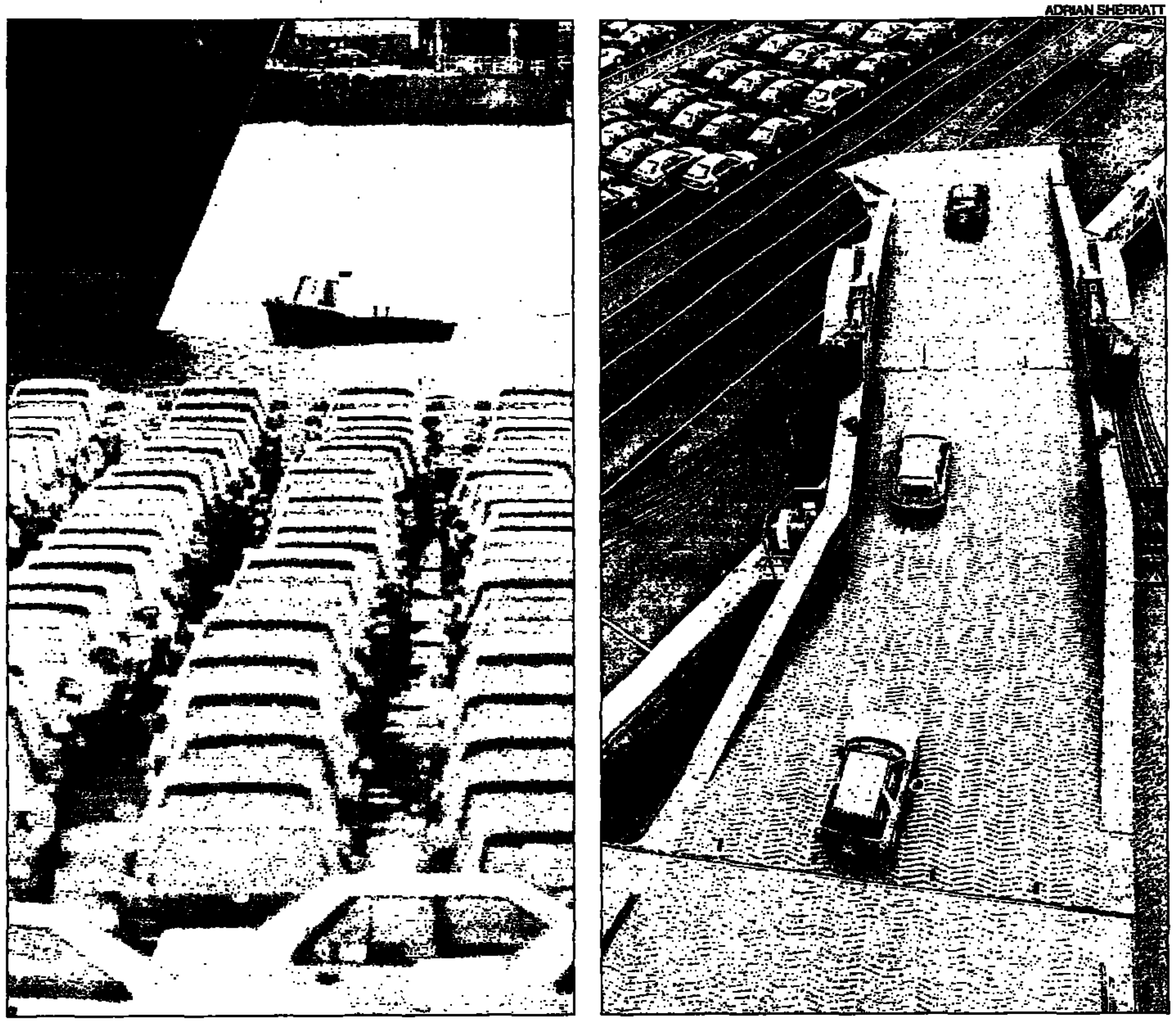
The world is now one huge car lot, with huge ships used to swap cars from market to market. **Simon Hacker** got on board

Avast, the car sails showroom

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Batches of cars come and go from Turandot's cavernous hold. The ship has a total parking capacity of 6,200 standard saloons

A rather special Daewoo was purchased by a Stockholm family-run shipping line last year: it has been barely run in but the odometer already shows four trips around the globe. Despite its operatic reference, the Korean-built MS Turandot is performing as calmly and reliably as its makers intended.

For most of us, our grasp of roll-on roll-off travel is limited to a short hop on the channel ferry, but the newly built Turandot puts P&O's biggest and best hardware in the shade. When it comes to shifting cars, they don't come any bigger than this.

On paper alone, Wallenius Lines's MS Turandot sends ship-spotters into paroxysms: she weighs in at 55,598 tonnes, her huge Hyundai engines produce 20,000bhp and her 13 car-carrying decks — three of which can concertina for extra headroom — have a total parking capacity of 6,200 standard saloons, that's nearly half the total parking space at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.

There are shrewd reasons for building such leviathans. To keep profitable, car carriers must constantly swap batches of vehicles around the globe. Political changes and currency fluctuations make trade patterns highly unpredictable, so Wallenius Lines's success has hinged upon flexibility.

From Alfa Romeo to Volvo, just about every automative name has been driven aboard a Wallenius ship, but the Turandot's incredible size can be a disadvantage, says Captain Arne Olsson. "Dublin, Cherbourg, Rotterdam — nearly all the ports are too small for this size of vessel," he says. "Ships have developed, but the ports haven't."

On the open seas, the problems can multiply. "If you find yourself in a very bad weather you have to do your best to head out of it," he says. With 600 square metres of side wall — larger than any ship in the world — catching the full force of a storm side-on could spell disaster. "Fortunately, the cars don't complain, they make better passengers than people. Once they are all lashed, they can go nowhere," Olsson says.

This was proved when Olsson's previous ship was caught in a massive storm off Florida, when the carrier "virtually returned to Europe" in order to escape — but the cars survived without a scratch.

However, the workers at Bristol's Royal Portbury Dock, told me of a memorable occasion when they discovered a rogue saloon that had broken free between ports and rolled around deck, doing a convincing impression of the world's most expensive pinball.

Packed deep in Turandot's hold you'll find a legion of Toyota Landcruisers destined for Germany, separated by no more than a folded wing-mirror's breadth from Fiat Cinquecentos. All the decks are connected by ramps and the cars can be driven to any level from the initial loading point on deck six.

Depending on whether they're right or left-hand drive, the cars are parked in a huge clockwise or anti-clockwise swirl. When the teams of stevedores assigned to the port come aboard to move the machines onto land, the circular pattern means that they can move straight off with no need to engage reverse. Not only does this reduce the risk of mishaps, it also means that less fuel is needed to reach the car pound.

At the Royal Portbury Dock, however, the cars couldn't be in safer hands. Phil Radford, the port's assistant manager for motor trade work, tells me that Portbury is the safest place in Europe for unloading vehicles. When it comes to avoiding accidents, Portbury's team are true professionals moving up to six cars per man per hour. Radford says: "We have just beaten Sheerness for volume of car import and exports and the accident rate in a turnover of 350,000 cars was just 0.04 per cent."

On the next high tide, and after no more than a few hours' rest, Capt Olsson threads Turandot's mighty bulk back out to the Atlantic.

In 100 days of navigation, she will call at around 40 different ports, swapping Rover 200s for Chrysler Neons, and Mitsubishis for Mercedes. It's a never-ending delivery job but the demands placed on her hull are probably lighter than the human cost.

"It can be very hard on crew members if they have children," says Olsson. "We spend no longer than three months at sea, followed by three back on land. While we are together though, we get on very well."

The Captain's living quarters wouldn't look out of place in a luxury cruise liner and the crew's facilities are lavish, including a gymnasium, sauna and bar. The command television room picks up satellite and local channels where they're available. Otherwise, the all-male crew selects something from what appears to be a largest collection of clean Swedish videos ever assembled.

If anything, life in the fast lane of car shipping has become more solitary than ever before. The Turandot's twin satellite communication systems provide a constant dialogue of telephone, fax and computer information — but all the radar screens can do is show you with pin-point accuracy just how much you're in the middle of nowhere.

Viewed from the towering Turandot, the sea is no less lonely than from a sardine-size fishing boat. And while 2,000 Land Rovers may be less problematic than passengers, they will never contribute to a lively late-night chat the captain's table.

Delivery charge racket

Why should I pay extra to get a car I bought?

Q	A
Am I going to be charged an extra small fortune if I purchase a P-registration car which has to be imported aboard one of these massive ships?	Not if it's a Daewoo. The South Korean car company was one of the first to scrap the obnoxious habit of imposing delivery charges even though the cars they sell in Britain have to be shipped more than halfway round the world.
But what about the Japanese carmakers who have been trying to entice me to buy their products instead?	They have been slower to drop delivery charges and you could find yourself paying around £400 even if your new car has only come from Sunderland rather than Kyoto.
That's scandalous. I don't have to pay hundreds of pounds more if I buy a washing machine. How do the carmakers justify the charges?	Most car manufacturers set a standard delivery charge to avoid penalising customers who live in remote areas.
How can I find out whether I am going to have to pay these delivery charges before I agree to buy a new car?	I could prescribe spectacles for the microscopic print at the bottom of glossy car adverts, but you could ask your dealer.
Yes, our dear friends the car dealers: what profits do they make out of this particular little racket?	Absolutely nothing. Delivery charges are set by the manufacturers, and dealers would like to scrap them because they upset prospective buyers.
If dealers don't want them and some companies are ditching them, why don't all the manufacturers end the charges?	The big boys are waiting for each other to make the first move. But more companies are taking the step. Proton have rolled all the extras into the list price the slogan, "The price in the ads is the price you pay to drive away."
Can anything be done to force the larger manufacturers to do the same thing with these daft add-ons?	Trading standards officers have prosecuted some companies over adverts which failed to specify delivery charges. The dealers' association is also campaigning for an end to charges, so we can only hope.

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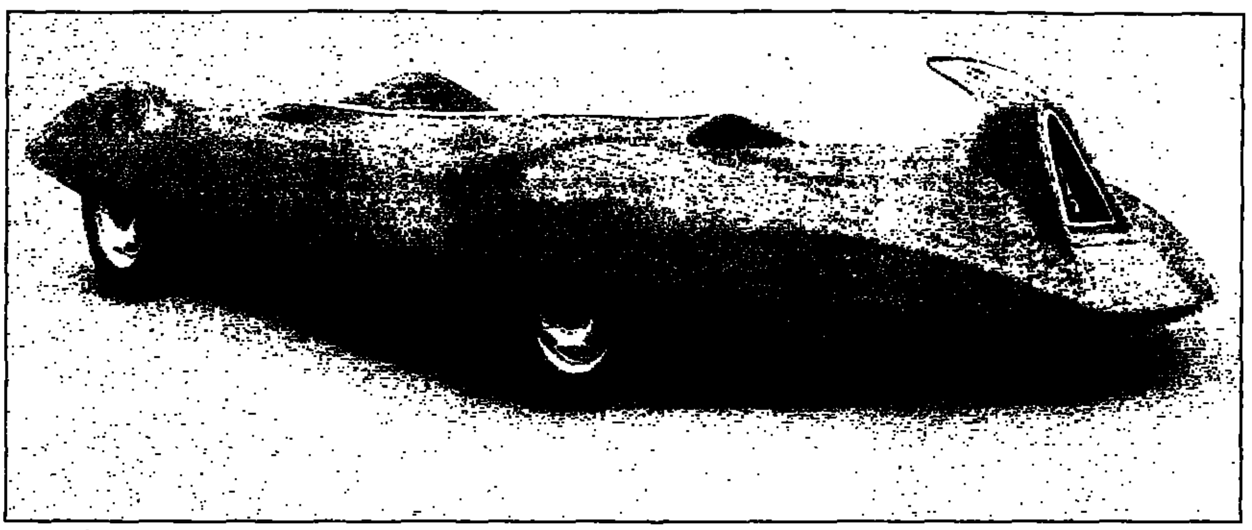
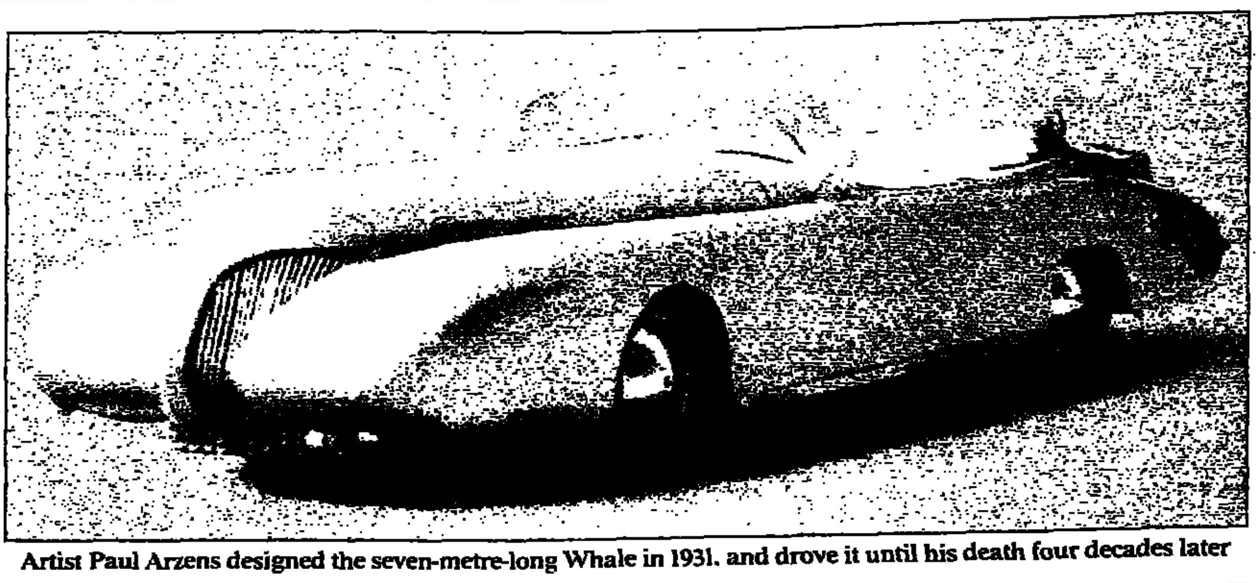
Wild and weird ideas that never made it into production are set to go on display, reports **Kevin Eason**



The Ghia IXG Dragster, built in Italy in 1960, relied on aerodynamics rather than brute engine power for speed



Artist Paul Arzens designed the seven-metre-long Whale in 1931, and drove it until his death four decades later

Designers' frights of fantasy

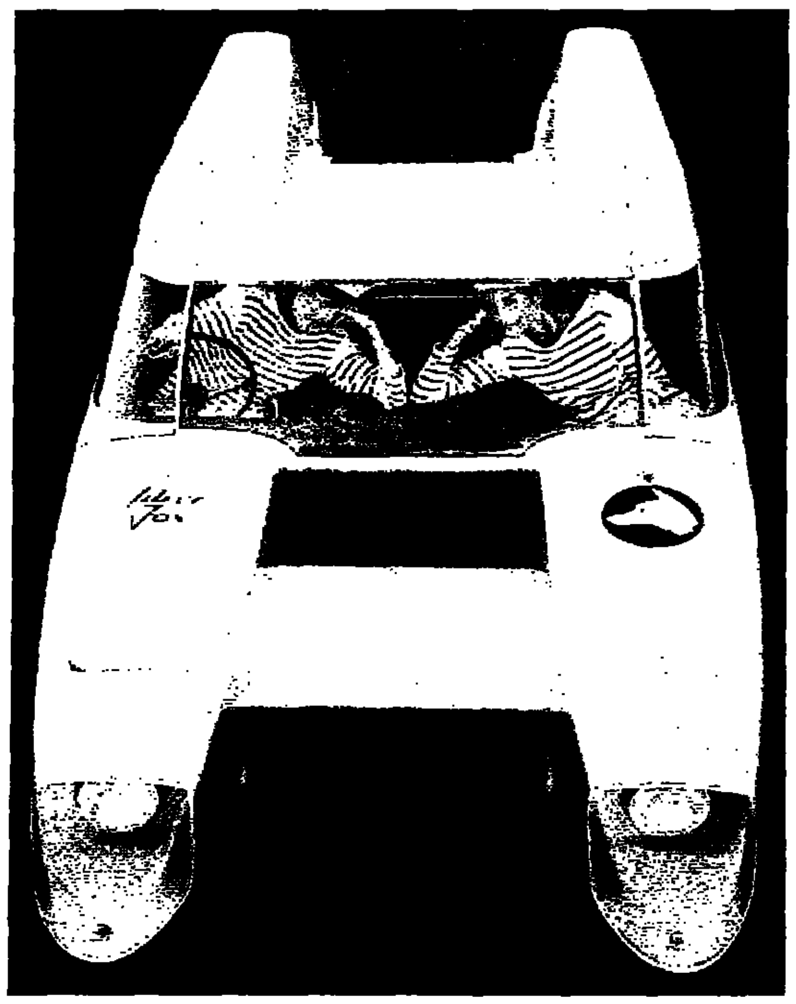
Sometimes the pen runs wild but the results are rarely seen by car buyers who would love to get behind the wheel of something that is truly whacky.

Designers are most of the time fixed by parameters decided by carmakers when they sit at the drawing board: so cost, ease of manufacture and. a certain amount of conservatism are always at the top of the checklist before they unleash their imaginations. Every now and again though, they are allowed the freedom to create cars that have little other reason to exist than the fact that somebody thought them up.

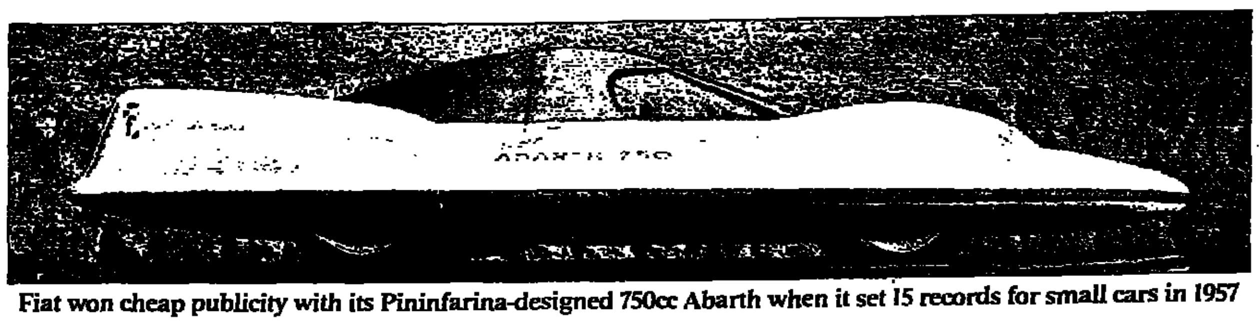
The results are often as remarkable as they are beautiful and bizarre, as guests will discover next month at the exclusive Concours Automobiles Classiques held by Louis Vuitton in Paris.

The Louis Vuitton organisers have found five astonishing cars for the show, models rarely seen in the outside world, such as the Ghia IXG Dragster which was built in 1960 to show how streamlined a car could get — even if the driver had to lie flat to steer.

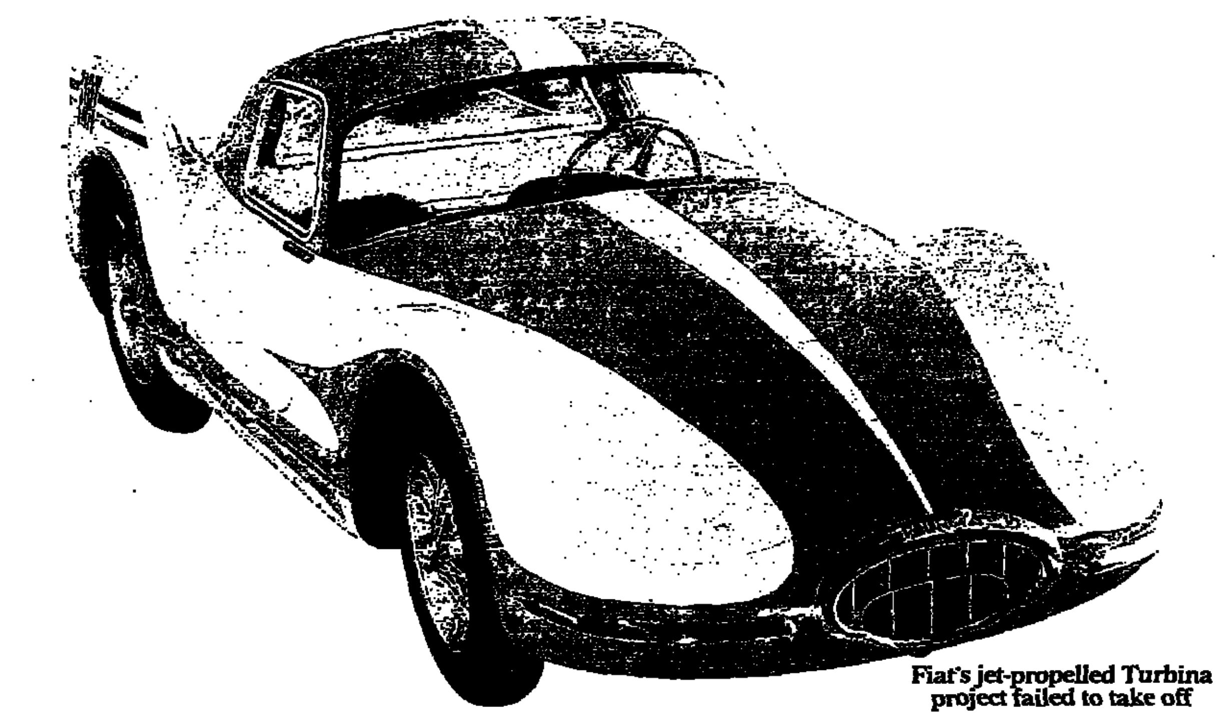
The OSI Silver Fox proved two hulls can be better than one, while the Fiat Abarth set 15 new speed records with a engine of just 750cc. Fiat's Turbina employed jet engine technology and a sleek body in 1954, although artist Paul Arzens just went over the top when he designed his Whale on a Buick chassis — all 23 feet long and six feet wide of it.



The twin-hull Silver Fox was shaped for excellent weight distribution



Fiat won cheap publicity with its Pininfarina-designed 750cc Abarth when it set 15 records for small cars in 1957



Fiat's jet-propelled Turbina project failed to take off

Rally round to this man's aid

Tony Dawe meets an adventurer on a quest to find the perfect endurance travelling companion

Dominic Kelly wants to escape from it all. He is seeking a great adventure to shake himself out of a mid-life crisis and is looking for a companion to join him.

Like Gerald Kingsland, whose story inspired the film *Castaway* with Oliver Reed and Amanda Donohoe, he needs someone to share the trials and tribulations of an alien life in remote parts.

A man or a woman would do, provided they had the right qualifications, although Kelly admits his wife would prefer him to take another man — especially if the woman was prone to take off her clothes as often as Miss Donohoe did in the film.

Kelly plans to take part in next year's Peking to Paris motor challenge, traversing Outer Mongolia and Nepal, mountains and deserts, in a rerun of the world's first international motor marathon of 1907. His 1961 Ford Zephyr has met the stringent entry requirements but he needs a co-driver who will also be prepared to help finance the expedition.

"I have set my heart on competing in the rally," he says. "It will be like a drug to get me through mid-life stupor. By the time I drive up the Champs Elysees after 45 days going through extremes of heat and danger I know I will have achieved something.

"The ideal person will need money, a sense of humour and have to be fit. He or she must be able to drive with enthusiasm and skill, know how to handle a hairpin bend and to cope with difficult and dangerous conditions without being frightened."

Anyone attracted by the idea can be assured that Kelly has the right credentials for the challenge, although he is a businessman by profession and describes himself as a "complete amateur" at rallying. His imagination was so fired by reading of the Peking to Paris event that he contacted Philip Young, the organiser, and asked what he needed to do to take part.

"Philip is a perfectionist and I knew I would have to convince him of my ability to contribute properly to the event," Kelly says. "He advised me on the car to buy and on the rallies to join to gain experience."

His first outing was in the Targa Espana last summer, driving from Le Mans through southern France, across the Pyrenees and Spanish sierras. Despite his novice rating and electrical storms and lashing rain at 7,000ft which put other competitors off the road, he won his class and has gone on to perform creditably in other international rallies.

He says his Zephyr, which hardly seems an ideal rally car, is "very sturdy and forgiving" and powers on despite possessing only three forward gears.

Kelly — and the companion he hopes to find — will certainly be in good company. Lord Montagu will be driving a 1914 Prince Henry Vauxhall, the oldest car in the rally, Prince Idris Shah of Malaysia hopes to enter a 1954 Studebaker Coupé and Sir David Steel will be handling a familiar three-litre Rover.

The ideal person will know how to handle a hairpin

Young, who returned recently from a planning trip to China, Nepal and India, reports that some of the roads on the route are more exciting than he imagined.

In the 1907 race, last-minute delays by officials in Peking meant that the drivers had to race in the rainy season. Paddy fields and swamps sucked wooden-spoked wheels into the mire, dragging down the spirits of the racers, but mountains and deserts were stormed successfully. Kelly is just waiting for someone to say they want to share the same highs and lows with him.

Interested readers can contact Mr Kelly at work on 0171-731 1303

Intrepid competitors set off on the first international motor marathon in 1907, which will be re-enacted next year

Hazardous journey: entrants crossed Nepal in the rainy season, getting bogged down in paddy fields and swamps

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With a Century Tandem Forecar from 1899 leading the parade and a 1996 Peugeot electric car bringing up the rear, this year's Mayflower Shakespeare run promises to be a true celebration of a century of motoring, *writes Tony Dawe.*

The rally, along a 65-mile circular route from Coventry into Shakespeare country will this year be the culmination of three days of events to mark the centenary of the British motor industry.

Today, *Car 96* offers readers the chance to enjoy the celebrations in style and to take part in the run by entering the competition below for a prize offered by Coventry and Warwickshire Convention and Visitor Bureau.

The winner and a guest will enjoy two nights at the De Vere Hotel, Coventry, and a host of events before taking their seats in a Daimler from the British Museum of Road Transport for the rally on Sunday September 1.

Six Daimlers have been entered by the Coventry-based museum including those which carried Queen Mary and King George VI. They will be followed by a 1944 Daimler double-decker bus.

Behind the Century Forecar owned by Stan Greenway of Leamington Spa will be a 1900 Siddeley Autocar restored by Rolls-Royce. The only man who understands how to drive the car properly is Dick Roberts of Sharnford, Leicestershire, who has been seriously ill recently but has set himself the target of being well enough to take part in the rally.

Six Model T Fords and a dozen MGs and Triumph Stags will also be among the 472 vehicles featured in the event, together with 18 vintage motorcycles and 20 vehicles owned by *Car 96* readers who, in an earlier competition, convinced the organisers that they were worth a place.

Martin Hone of International Festival Services, which has organised the run for 12 years, says: "We have carefully developed the event until it is now nationally acknowledged as the London to Brighton run of the Midlands and regularly attracts hundreds of thousands of spectators."

The Motor in the City celebrations begin in Coventry on Friday, August 30, with a parade of cars made in the city by many of the 100 manufacturers who have set up there during the past century. The winners of today's competition will be able to watch the opening event before attending a medieval banquet.

On the Saturday they will be given a guided tour of Coventry including the cathedral and the Museum of British Road Transport, home to the largest collection of British-made vehicles in the world.

Sunday's run through Kenilworth, Stratford-upon-Avon, Henley-in-Arden and Warwick, will be preceded by a champagne breakfast.

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■ To join the draw for our holiday weekend prize, send your answers to these three questions to: Motor in the City, PO Box 200, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B75 7TR.

■ When does the Motor in the City weekend take place?

■ Who founded Coventry's famous car company, Jaguar?

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AWY 5X
390 AXO
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BCA 713
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N7 BLE
M1 BLM
1 BLV
BM 6
774 BMW
12 BN
111 BN
617 BNK
719 BNO
142 BNP
B17 BOB
H15 BOG
H15 BOM
890 BOM
1462 BP
72 BPA
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BPV 316
BPV 573
BPV 60
BPW 403
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902 BRR
BRY 350Y
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BT 8654
BTG 635
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221 BTJ
854 BTJ
BTR 53
212 BTW
BUD 15Y
M15 BUG
A12 BUG
H15 BUG
BVC 1T
57 BVE
BW 2
BW 4
107 BWL
BWN 5V
368 BWV
BXI 69
6310 BY
38 BYB
705 BYD
60 BYK
BYN 563
2724 BZ
237 CAE
J4 CAP
B10 CAT
H15 CAV
CAZ 2743
A6 CBA
11 CBC
CBC 218
8377 CBD
CCV 843
457 CCY
3766 CD
CDX 2T
CDZ 929
CEJ 898
768 CER
CER 359
1 CFA
212 CFD
582 CFJ
CFL 690
CG 2956
CGK 5X
E71 CGK
CHC 695
CHG 66
518 CHR
CIL 7659
560 CKD
M11 CKJ
186 CKK
731 CKL
CKL 927
342 CKN
H6 CKY
A20 CLA
CLB 671
86 CLJ
CLN 720
609 CLT
CLU 469
597 CMM
15 CN
11 CO
H3 COB
369 COE
22 COP
COY 317
J1 COY
CPM 911B
620 CPO
820 CPT
874 CPW
CR 4812
692 CRT
686 CRY
248 CRY
A9 CRY
CSK 266
CSS 786
CSU 877
CSV 606
CT 4
337 CTA
206 CTA
45 CTG
1 CTS
497 CUE
M60 CUF
627 CUW
CVB 31
CVO 231
957 CWN
CWT 969Y
CYD 31A
CYP 80
501 D
368 DA
DAD 881Y
M8 DAD
804 DAE
B8 DAT
DAV 1E
J66 DAV
DAY 662
DAZ 8800
5 DBS
H7 DCC
DCC 906
269 DCD
593 DCG
4615 DD
DD 4855
211 DDE
1 DDJ
DDN 178
DDY 710
N3 DDY
DDZ 1232
44 DEF
K2 DEL
DEM 2
DEN 68W
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DF 134
826 DFD
943 DFJ
DFW 2T
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1 DGL
86 DHF
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832 DHU
DHV 14
DHV 386
884 DK
59 DKF
124 DKH
DKM 438
814 DKP
282 DKR
22 DLD
111 DLE
DLN 429
33 DLT
591 DLW
12 DM
K1 DMG
885 DMW
9950 DN
DN 787
DND 118
391 DNG
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862 DNR
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A515 DSF
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21 DTC
904 DTJ
DTK 64
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DWG 38
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9948 E
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457 EAF
B1 EAN
36 EAR
931 EAU
22 EAX
378 EAY
4 EBC
EBE 30Y
300 EBS
EBZ 5
EC 28
6 EC
168 ECJ
308 ECV
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EDY 738
EDZ 5
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11 EH
8212 EH
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190 EKG
234 EKK
712 EKM
EKP 454
369 EKR
9 EL
ELJ 604
B13 ELL
752 EMD
889 EMT
740 ENG
25 ENK
13 ENM
860 ENN
232 EOJ
EOO 164
423 EOP
EOP 579
EPC 217
673 EPE
939 EPF
17 EPF
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377 ERH
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A25 FAY
FAZ 1607
1 FBA
FBA 464
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219 FBC
968 FBD
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22 FC
FCF 22
FDG 215
FDN 785
FDP 129
185 FDT
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M8 FEE
FFW 85
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415 FGE
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1879 FH
9 FH
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FJ 9545
671 FJJ
FJK 820
FJR 83
FK 2903
119 FKA
719 FKH
222 FKK
FKK 490
FKL 298
FL 1
FLK 901
32 FLM
N5 FLR
FLY 198T
A815 FLY
9 FMH
397 FMJ
7441 FN
FN 3897
152 FNN
889 FOF
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462 FOJ
B2 FOX
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405 FPB
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537 FPJ
FPL 432
92 FPT
8 FR
FRD 762
329 FRH
FRR 824
13 FRT
738 FRX
A785 FRY
693 FS
FS 8850
A11 FSH
FSV 291
FSW 238
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14 FT
FTG 794
K10 FTG
296 FTM
M17 FTY
N7 FTY
674 FUR
8 FW
629 FWC
FWC 879
61 FWJ
79 FWN
2 FX
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6 FY
17 FY
499 FYN
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B16 GAG
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B811 GAO
2 GAR
258 GAX
GAZ 8956
128 GB
117 GBD
GBD 987
GBF 77
687 GBF
8666 GCF
GCL 773
22 GDA
GDJ 128
H2 GDM
GEC 6
J111 GER
150 GF
GFB 788
292 GFC
334 GFJ
GFK 989
GFO 360
GFR 288
GGL 623
P8 GGS
GH 4142
GHD 700Y
GHE 884
1 GHS
664 GHU
614 GHY
GIB 248
6 GJ
GJK 88
GJK 932
GJK 9
GK 1886
616 GKA
853 GKE
GKG 836
800 GKH
45 GKL
345 GKL
279 GKM
GKV 815
83 GLM
GLU 134C
714 GMK
B8 GMS
681 GMU
8 GMU
GNE 53Y
1 GOK
GOO 316
35 GOT
A3 GOV
GOW 1E
M1 GPB
7 GPE
H15 GPO
GPR 803
GPT 21S
GPU 4Y
GR 6
A15 GRG
C70 GRH
H4 GRS
111 GS
GSS 8V
844 GT
N811 GTP
732 GTR
679 GTT
N19 GTV
B7 GUN
1 GUR
H15 GUT
770 GUV
H1 GUV
551 GUW
GV 2583
543 GVO
869 GVW
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822 GWL
28 GWN
89 GXT
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76 GYL
785 GYT
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3 HG
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HHR 911
793 HHY
HIL 115
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HJE 528
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HJK 787
HJY 749
813 HKB
887 HKJ
HKN 891
528 HKP
HKR 517
813 HKR
HKW 473
HL 8577
8 HL
HL 8359
HLE 439
HLL 846
HLS 1V
HMH 555
7 HN
1048 HN
F40 HNJ
HNN 2V
HNV 124
5 HO
614 HOM
248 HOO
A15 HOX
HP 8301
4037 HP
HPA 817
724 HPF
HPG 758
49 HPL
145 HPP
9 HPX
6 HR
21 HR
27 HRA
HRP 37
8 HS
19 HS
HSE 3
HSK 260
HSK 167
HSO 156
HSY 822
HTL 252
C68 HTM
HTR 193
HTS 3
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870 HU
B1 HUR
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HVJ 716
HVK 412
764 HVO
HW 66
HWF 163
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JRO 8Y
803 JRT
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Women are flocking to play with the big military hardware at an off-road centre. **Helen Mound** had a go

For the tank girls, size is everything

DENZIL MCNEELANCE

Helen Mound in the Chieftain commander's turret, with instructor Simon Parkinson. It's fun, but dirty, dusty fun

Want to feel invincible? Try the giant Chieftain — solid as a bank vault and fast, too

Let's get one thing straight: driving a Volvo is nothing like driving a tank. In spite of the frequent comparison, Volvos and tanks have nothing in common — I know because I have driven both.

At the controls of a tank, there is no windscreen, no indicators, no airbag ... not even a steering wheel. You need well-toned arm muscles to manoeuvre a tank, an insatiable appetite for the grit and dust that invades every orifice, and cast iron nerves to keep 55 tons of steel moving at speeds which make it unstoppable.

Driving a tank might be every schoolboy's dream, but girls just want to have fun too. Military vehicles are no longer toys just for boys, and women are muscling in on the fantasy of putting on combat gear and poking their heads out of the turret.

At Wild Tracks, a driving activity centre near Newmarket, more and more women are taking advantage of one of the country's best private collection of military vehicles. For the last three years, would-be tank girls have turned up from Women's Institutes and hen parties to try out military hardware that would put a grin on the face many a tin-pot dictator.

These girls aren't just mincing about in the cute little Ferret scout cars — they want something big; the biggest most frightening pieces of tracked metal on site: six-wheeled amphibious Stalwarts and Chieftain tanks. Then there's the self-propelled 105mm gun mounted on a 14-ton personnel-carrying tank.

Simon Parkinson and Richard Wilson, military vehicle experts and instructors, admit that more women than men have taken control of the tanks; they learn faster than males and are more daring once they're let loose on the dusty course, which at times leaves the instuctors fearing for their lives.

Paula Cooper harboured fantasies of commanding her own tank — so, dressed in our best "Private Benjamin" clobber of tough boots and combat fatigues, she and I went to Wild Tracks to realise our dreams.

The tank instructors were amused by the outfits we proudly thought appropriate; most of their female customers are a little unprepared for the demands of pseudo-military life: short skirts and high heels are not unusual.

Lessons start with something small in military vehicle terms, in our case, the Stalwart, which does have a windscreen, steering wheel, gears, clutch and brakes. The familiarity ends there, though, because this is 6x6 driving and it's a whole lot of fun. With a little practice we soon learnt how to get a power-slide out of the 16-ton vehicle, lift all six wheels off the ground at high speed and terrify our instructor into the bargain.

His suggestion to try going a bit slower fell on deaf ears (we told him we couldn't hear him above the din of the engine). But the 8-litre Rolls-Royce petrol engine in the Stalwart wasn't enough to satisfy our thirst for power. With our adrenalin at full throttle, we wanted to see just how far we could push a tank. The unglamorously named APC FV432 weighs a mere 14-tonnes, usually has a crew of two — driver and commander — and ten soliders. The driver's cockpit was an alien world of switches, buttons, and just two levers for acceleration and steering.

Women turn up in short skirts and high heels

Push them both forward together and you're moving, pull either the left or right to steer, and pull them both backwards and you stop. Simple when you know how. But I recommend not standing in the rear passenger cabin when anyone as enthusiastic as Commander Cooper is at the controls: the vibration resounding through the tank as she hurtled across the dust dunes was enough to knock me off my feet and shake the fillings out of my teeth.

After a lesson in the "small" tank, it was the Chieftain: 55 tonnes of imposing steel, capable of crossing water up to 15 feet deep, its Leyland L60 19-litre two-stroke diesel engine pumping out 720 brake horse power — as much as a Formula One car — with a 120mm gun on top. Not very feminine I know, but stand alongside kit like this and you can't help but be impressed. In truth, I was grateful we were in fantasy-land as the reality of spending several hours working inside one of the Chieftains would send a claustrophobic screaming towards the open field. A crew of four — commander, ammunition loader, gunner and driver — have to crush into the hull, with barely room to bend over and scratch their ankles.

In battle, a Chieftain driver lies down and uses a periscope to see where he is going; but Suffolk is still at peace, so we got to sit upright and look out of the open hatch. Now we know why the driver likes to lie down out of the way: having your head poking out of the hatch is fairly impractical unless you want it shot off, but it also means a face full of dust and grit.

The Chieftain uses two steering levers, although a turn either way took all the strength I had in both arms to pull just one lever. This time, we had the luxury of an accelerator pedal, and it's alarming how fast this leviathan will shift. Nothing comes close to the awesome feeling of being in control of one of the world's biggest and heaviest tanks. The Chieftain offers the solidity of a bank vault and the off-road ability of a Range Rover. It is the closest feeling I can imagine to being invincible, though I dare say that with large calibre shells shrieking towards you in a genuine battle, the feeling would be short-lived.

We were both embarrassed to realise quite how much the Chieftain made us squeal with delight as we dropped over a steep hill at speed, and we decided we'd probably be useless in battle since we'd spend most of our time arguing over who got to drive.

At £140 for 90 minutes, playing around in the Chieftain (and all the other military vehicles) is not cheap, but then the fuel consumption of a tank is measured in gallons per mile. Short of enlisting in the army though, there's no other motorised experience that comes anywhere near it for the sheer sense of power.

It's the most fun a girl can have — just a pity we don't get to fire the gun.

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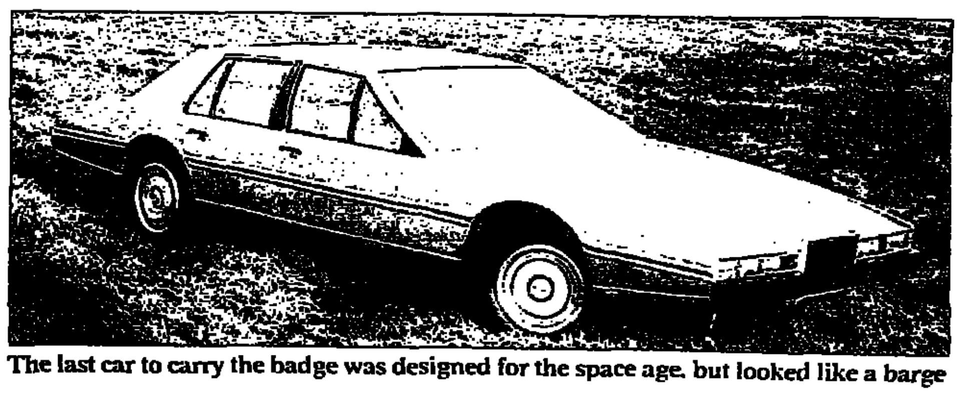
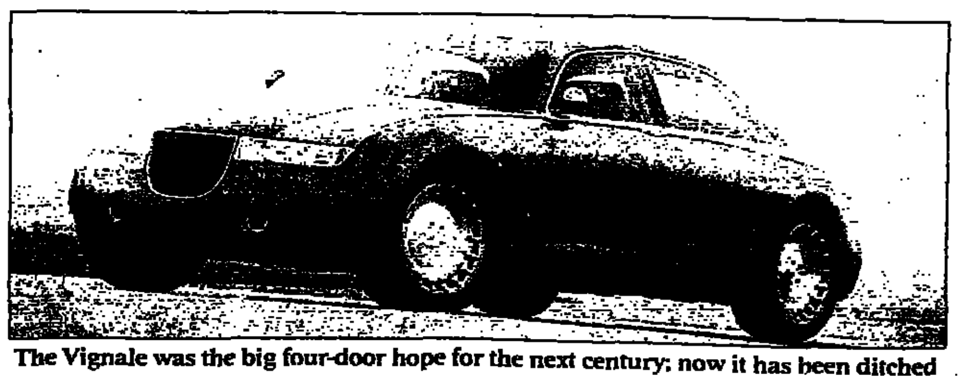
Revival plans for a famous name have been abandoned, says **Kevin Eason**

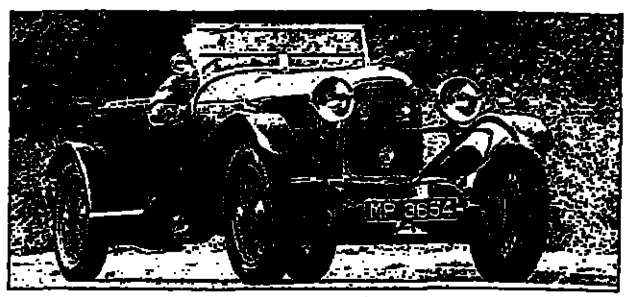
Dream Lagonda is a goner



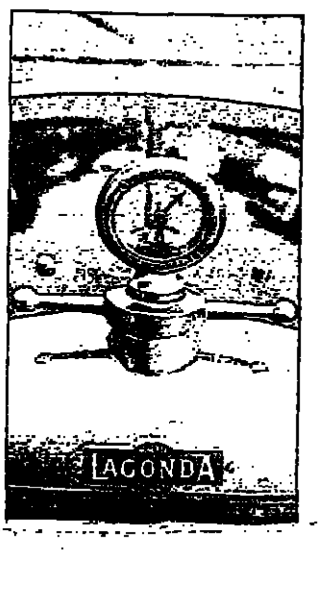
The last car to carry the badge was designed for the space age, but looked like a barge



The Vignale was the big four-door hope for the next century; now it has been ditched



Better times: a 1928 model; the firm went bust in 1935



One of British motoring's famous names, Lagonda, might be at the end of the road: Aston Martin, which owns the name, has abandoned the fabulous Vignale concept car which, it was hoped, would become the four-door Lagonda for the next century.

David Price, Aston's new chairman, and his American bosses at Ford, Aston's owners since 1987, have decided the investment is too much at a time when Aston is winning the battle to re-establish itself around the world. Aston is doing extremely well, thanks to the introduction of the gorgeous DB7, which went on sale in America this year.

Sales last year were a record 723 and will be about the same in 1996, with America taking a third of Aston production and the UK a third.

But Price, like his predecessors, hankers after a four-door and all eyes were on the Vignale to revive the faded Lagonda name. Lagonda has had an unhappy heritage since Wilbur Gunn brought it from America — where the name comes from Lagonda Creek — in the early years of the century. Lagonda won Le Mans in 1935, and a week later went bust and was auctioned off. The buyer, Alan Good, brought in W. O. Bentley, disenchanted at Rolls-Royce, who then designed the wonderful Lagonda V12.

That was as good as it got. By 1947, David Brown had acquired the name for his Aston Martin company but even he seemed undecided what to do with it. The last incarnation was the astonishing Lagonda designed for the space age but which looked more like a canal barge. It was the first car with a digital

more than 600, even though it seemed to have hit the bottom of the trench for bad taste and was quite unlike the elegant Bentley cars with their distinctive compass bonnet emblem.

But for those with a taste for the deeply unusual, good

They were ordered by dealers but never sold even though Aston last made a Lagonda seven years ago. David Price says the Lagonda name is hardly known these days, so why revive it? But if you want one new, just name a price for

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